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KENT ON SUNDAY

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BRUTAL FUGITIVE IS FINALLY JAILED

EXCLUSIVE

By STEVE KNIGHT

After years on the run in USA, justice at last catches up with would-be killer living in hiding

A FUGITIVE who fled to the United States after savagely attacking his estranged wife and her new partner has been jailed after 13 years on the run.

Jaswinder Rana was extradited to the UK last year after Kent Police – working with the US Marshals Service, and Immigration and Customs Enforcement – discovered the former Gillingham resident had been living in hiding in a Sikh community in San Jose, California.

This week he was jailed for 14 years after pleading guilty to the attempted murder of Amar Sandhu.

He was also sentenced to nine years after admitting causing grievous bodily harm with intent to his ex-wife Kirpal Rana, in March, 1996.

The sentences will run concurrently.

Speaking exclusively to KOS Media, Det Insp Gavin Moss said the hefty sentence should act as a warning to others that the police will never give up on a case.

He said: "We are very committed to investigating serious crimes, no matter how much time has passed, and this is a very satisfying outcome for us and the victims. The relationship we built with the American authorities had an enormous influence on this case and they were instrumental in the success of the investigation.

"They conducted a lot of research and background checks on Rana and were able to locate exactly where he was, which led to his eventual arrest [in March last year].

"For legal reasons Kent Police officers were not able to be present , but I am informed he was completely taken by surprise that he should be caught after all these years.

"I have the utmost respect for his victims because this was clearly a very difficult offence for them to potentially have to relive, but thankfully Rana saw sense and pleaded guilty."

Rana, 56, attacked his ex-wife and her new partner with a "bladed instrument" following an angry confrontation in Kelly Drive, Gillingham, leaving both victims seriously injured and the boyfriend confined to a wheelchair. They both also suffered head trauma, with Mr Sandhu losing much of the use of his right hand.

Rana fled the country before police could arrest him and, despite believing he had set up home in Paris, the trail quickly turned cold. That changed when detectives conducted a review of the case in late 2007.

Det Insp Moss said: "As the review progressed we were able to establish there was a large Sikh community in the San Jose area of California.

"We made contact with the US embassy in London, which offered us enormous assistance and were able to find out he was living there under the assumed identity of Suchet Singh.

"It may have been a lucky break, but we had to explore all possibilities because he could have been anywhere in the world. It turned out to be an opportunity well worth investigating."

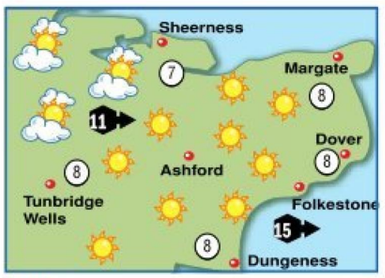
Det Insp Moss also praised the Crown Prosecution Service for the help it gave the police in bringing Rana to justice.

Rana was sentenced at the Old Bailey on Friday.

JASWINDER RANA: Behind bars after 13 years on the run

* Includes all surcharges and taxes. See website for details and full terms and conditions.

Kent today



TODAY: Fine and dry with some cloud, but also spells of sunshine, albeit rather hazy at times. Moderate westerly winds. Max temp 5-8C (41-46F).
TONIGHT: Dry with clear spells and variable cloud. Light south-westerly winds. Possible frost. Min temp 0-3C (32-37F).

Around Britain

		°C	°F			°C	°F
Aberdeen	fair	7	45	London	fair	8	46
Belfast	fair	8	46	Liverpool	fair	9	48
Birmingham	sun	8	46	Manchester	sun	8	46
B'mouth	fair	10	50	Newcastle	sun	7	45
Bristol	sun	9	48	Norwich	sun	8	46
Cardiff	fair	10	50	Oxford	sun	7	45
Cork	fair	9	48	Southsea	fair	9	48
Edinburgh	fair	7	45	S'hampton	fair	8	46
Glasgow	drizzle	8	46	Southport	fair	8	46
Isle of Man	fair	9	48	Swansea	fair	9	48
Leeds	sun	7	45	Torquay	fair	10	50

Sun & moon

Sunrise	7.53am	Sunset	4.18pm	Lighting up times:
Moonrise	8.39am	Moonset	6.54pm	4.18pm to 7.52am

High Tides

	today				tomorrow			
	ht (m)		ht (m)		ht (m)		ht (m)	
Dover	00.02	6.5	12.19	6.3	00.35	6.5	12.51	6.3
Margate	00.51	4.6	13.16	4.5	01.25	4.6	13.50	4.5
St Mary's	05.52	5.5	18.08	5.2	06.24	5.5	18.39	5.2

Week ahead

monday Cloudy. Dry. max 8C min 2C

tuesday Cloudy. Dry. max 6C min 2C

wednesday Cloudy. Dry. max 6C min 1C

thursday Cloudy. Dry max 7C min 4C

friday Dull. Damp. max 8C min 4C

saturday Dull. Rain. max 8C min 4C

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Inquest told how police killed man as he carried out armed robbery

By **IAN READ**

AN INQUEST has been told how police officers shot and killed an armed robber in a car park.

Robert Haines, 43, of Canterbury Road, Challock, had just stolen £105,000 from a security van at the Nationwide Building Society in New Romney on October 31, 2006.

But Haines was shot and then tasered by the Metropolitan Police CO19 firearms squad after he fired his shotgun at officers.

The Folkestone inquest heard Haines was part of a four-man team who had robbed cash deliveries across Kent and South East London for three years.

But using intelligence received, the police were lying in wait for the robbers.

The inquest was told two unmarked cars carrying armed officers drove into the Church Road car park as a learner driver was coming out.

Career criminals

An officer named as Foxtrot Three said the officers' cars pushed the learner vehicle out of the way after it stalled.

When he reached the car park Haines was already laying wounded on the ground.

Another gang member was arrested as he tried to drive a high-powered Mercedes car away.

It was 30 seconds after Haines had been shot.

Foxtrot Three said he met officer Echo 9 who told him he'd fired at Haines.

Foxtrot Three said: "He told me he confronted the suspect and fired at him after the suspect had shot at him."

The officer gave evidence behind a screen to preserve his anonymity.

He later found a sawn-off shotgun with a live cartridge in it – the other barrel had been fired. Bits of the stock had fallen off.

Foxtrot Three said he had no illusions they were confronting career criminals who would shoot if need be.

Fellow officer Foxtrot 10 tried to give Haines first aid on the scene. He tore away the robber's clothing so he could be treated. He said Haines was thrashing about and moaning in agony.

SHOT DEAD: Robert Haines fired on police

Gun group commander Foxtrot One said officers were standing over him – one with a taser gun in his hand.

He said: "I could see it had been fired because the wires were deployed. I turned him over and removed his balaclava to allow him to breath and identify him.

"I spoke to officer Echo 10 who said he approached the suspect who was lying on the ground and shouted at him to drop his weapon. There was no answer and fearing for his own safety, he discharged the taser."

Haines died from his wounds. Three other men who carried out the raid were convicted in 2007, and given jail terms ranging from 10 to 17 years.

Former special constable and Securicor employee David Jenkins, from Kingsnorth, was sentenced for 10 years.

His son Dean Jenkins, from Rainham, was jailed for 17 years, and Ben Grehan, from south London, was given 12 years.

Prior to the shooting the gang had been involved in a string of raids on security vans which had netted more than £500,000 across the South East.

The hearing continues on tomorrow.

Woman PC is beaten by driver

A POLICE woman was beaten unconscious after stopping a van for a routine check at a roadside in Swanley.

The female officer, who has not been named, had been on patrol in Crockenhill Road on Thursday at 8.30pm, when she pulled over a blue Transit van that had its rear number plate missing.

A West Kent police spokeswoman said: "While conducting the stop check the officer was punched and kicked by two of the occupants of the van.

"They then got back into the van and drove off in the direction of Bromley.

"When patrols attended shortly after, they discovered the officer unconscious on the ground. She was taken to hospital where she was treated for her injuries, and was later discharged."

Golden Staff on the right track

OLYMPIC gold medallist Jamie Staff is helping to promote the planned state-of-the-art cycling facility near Northfleet.

The Ashford-born, record-breaking cyclist will act as an ambassador for the multi-million pound development which will boast a 2.8 kilometre road race track and an international standard BMX track

Kent County Council's Cllr Nick Chard said: "Jamie is an excellent role model and he will play a key part in promoting the work we do, which in the greater scheme of things is vital to helping regenerate the area. This is great news for us."

Staff said: "As soon as I heard about this project I was keen to be involved. I'm passionate about getting people active and the cycling park project is going to give everyone in the area an ideal location to do this."

£80,000 bill for drugs pushers

DRUG dealers currently serving time behind bars have been ordered to pay back more than £80,000 between them.

Alfred Brazil, 40, from Cranbrook near Maidstone, and Berkshire resident Austin Deville, 35, were sentenced to three years and 18 months respectively after being convicted last April of supplying 29kg of cannabis.

Now Kent Police have secured a confiscation order for cash the pair earned through their criminal activity.

Det Insp Mark Fairhurst said: "Our financial investigators have already secured £57,951 in cash from the pair, who will now need to sell-off their remaining assets to meet the July, 2010, confiscation order deadline or serve a further 18 months in prison."

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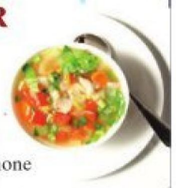

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Bollywood beckons for trio of talented sisters

By **MARIJKE COX**
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THREE young sisters look set to hit the Bollywood big time after being chosen to star in major film roles during an X Factor-style audition.

Karishma Lakhani, 16, and her sister Trishala, 14, from Welling, impressed judges so much at the regional heats of Bollywood Factor they were immediately signed by a top entertainment agency.

The girls are now being considered for major film roles and hope to join the stars of Indian cinema, such as 2007 Celebrity Big Brother winner Shilpa Shetty and East is East star Om Puri.

Their younger sister, nine-year-old Rushali, also wowed judges and was entered into the Bollywood Stage School, run at Honey's Dance Academy – the UK's top Bollywood dance school.

The academy has produced numerous actors for Hollywood and Bollywood blockbusters, including the Harry Potter films, Bride and Prejudice, and Indian smash Kabhi Khushi Kabhi Ghum.

It was hailed by the BBC as "the 21st century fame school" and founder Honey Kalaria now has 18 dance studios across the UK – one of them based in Rochester.

Deepak Lakhani, the father of the three girls, said he and his wife Vandana are the "proudest parents on Earth".

"My girls can sing, dance and act and they are all interested in breaking into Bollywood and Hollywood," he said.

"They recently did a dance sequence on a new film by the lady behind Bend it Like Beckham, Gurinda Chadha, called It's a Wonderful Afterlife, which is released in April. They've also performed in hundreds of local events and featured on television shopping channels.

"All three of them love performing – it's a part of them. Even though their studies are important, I think it is just as important for them to do something they are interested in."

LITTLE GEMS: Sisters Karishma, Rushali and Trishala Lakhani (above) could follow in the footsteps of star Shilpa Shetty (left)

Mr Lakhani, who has always been involved in acting, hopes they will now have even further scope to develop their talents, which over the years has also included modelling.

Honey Kalaria, who launched Bollywood Factor and the UK Bollywood Dance Championships 2010, has worked with countless stars, including Beyonce Knowles and Craig David as well a host of Bollywood celebrities. She was named one of the top three Asian businesswomen in the UK and was presented with the Best Bollywood International Award for her role in Indian Babu.

Mentoring

Ms Kalaria said she launched Bollywood Factor to search for the next superstar. She stressed she had looked for students with passion, creativity and stage presence, who could be trained in Bollywood and bhangra dance.

"I was absolutely amazed to see the wealth of talent that we have in the UK," she said. "The aim was to discover the stars of tomorrow and offer training, mentoring or put candidates forward for roles that we are currently casting for.

"I congratulate all those who attended the auditions even in the adverse weather conditions, as this is the kind of dedication and passion we are looking for. I am pleased to say we found a few gems that we feel we can polish and turn into diamonds."

Bollywood is the Mumbai-based, Hindi-language film industry in India. US film companies Warner Bros and Twentieth Century Fox are so positive about the future of Bollywood they are setting up offices in India.

Treatment charge

SOUTHERN Water has been taken to court accused of supplying inadequately disinfected water to areas of Kent.

The company is charged with three counts of failing to prepare water properly at its Matts Hill treatment works near Sittingbourne early in November, 2008.

A Southern Water representative pleaded not guilty to all charges when he appeared before Medway magistrates on behalf of the company on Thursday, and requested the trial be heard in front of a district judge.

The bench accepted his request and adjourned the case until January 28, when a trial date will be fixed.

Should Southern Water be found guilty, it faces fines of up to £5,000 for each offence.

Race to help Haiti

TV CHEF John Burton Race is hosting two special meals to raise money for the Red Cross Haiti Earthquake Appeal.

Dinner will be held at Harveys Restaurant in Ramsgate on Saturday, January 23, and there will a lunch on Sunday, January 24, at the Dog Inn, Wingham.

Tickets are £30 and are available in advance only. Call 01843 599707 for details.

To see this clip search 'snow'
@ yourkenttv.co.uk

Log on to view some of the beautiful scenes we captured of Kent covered in the recent snow

Wallinger's White Horse is under starter's order

A GIANT sculpture of a white horse set to dominate the Kentish landscape has cleared its first major hurdle, ***writes Steve Knight***.

Designed by Turner Prize-winning artist Mark Wallinger, the 50ft replica of his own racing horse Riviera Red will overlook the Ebbsfleet Valley development at a cost of £2 million.

The sculpture took a giant step towards being built this week when a planning application was submitted to Gravesham council for consideration – less than a year after it was announced as the winner of a competition to find an 'Angel of the South'.

Stephen Jordan, chairman of the Ebbsfleet Landmark Project (ELP), said: "This is an important step on the journey for this ambitious project and we are pleased to have made so much progress over the last few months.

"Mark Wallinger has been working closely with us and his input has been invaluable.

"His concept is a technically challenging one, but the response from the ELP team and founding patrons has been excellent."

Gravesham council leader Cllr Mike Snelling added: "While I cannot pre-judge the results of a planning application to our independent regulatory board, this is an exciting project which has the potential to put Ebbsfleet on the map."

STRIKING: Impression of the White Horse

The White Horse, which is being privately funded by Eurostar, Land Securities and London and Continental Railways, will stand prominently at Springhead Park and overlook Ebbsfleet Valley and Ebbsfleet International.

Mr Wallinger's design was originally criticised by Kent County Council, which wanted the animal to be "prancing" like the Invicta symbol in the authority's crest.

However, deputy leader Alex King welcomed the judges' decision to award it the commission, saying it was the best option of the ones available.

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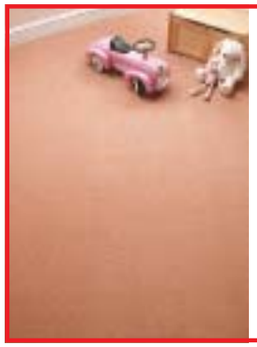

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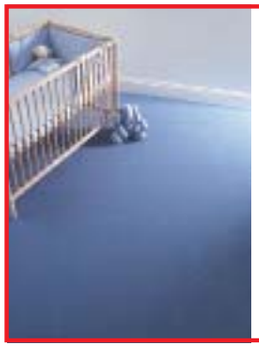

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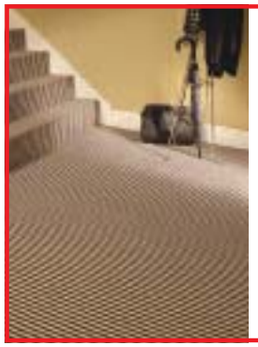

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Money-making weight-loss plan is to be extended

A CONTROVERSIAL scheme that pays fat people for losing weight is to be extended following an "overwhelming" response to its Kent-based pilot.

The Weight Wins project – which is currently being trialled by NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent – offers patients up to £1,750 over two years to encourage them to diet and exercise.

The scheme is run by a private company and was one of several weight-loss ideas trialled by the NHS over the last year.

Founder Winton Rossiter said that 2,300 people applied for 400 places on the pilot when it was launched a year ago, and that the response had convinced him to extend the initiative and allow people to sign up privately.

He said: "We are offering new hope to dieters. Most people know how to lose weight, but they fail to maintain their weight loss because of a lack of motivation.

"Providing a structured financial incentive programme is the key to helping our participants develop healthy lifestyles for the long term and to losing weight and keeping it off."

Under the basic scheme, the dieter pays a one-off registration fee of £45 and a monthly rate of £10, while a higher plan costs £90 registration with a £20 monthly payment. If the dieters lose weight to agreed targets, they start to receive payments from Weight Wins.

Despite Mr Rossiter's enthusiasm over the supposed success of the project, a spokesman for NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent said the results of the pilot would not be analysed until after it finishes next month.

He added it was one of a range of initiatives the primary care trust was examining to combat the rising trend in obesity.

Shadow health secretary Andrew Lansley told KOS Media last year he was "sceptical" about using taxpayers' cash to reward people for dieting.

Tory councillor is a kerb crawler

TORY councillor Nick Brice has been expelled from Medway Conservative Group after he was caught kerb crawling.

The Rochester South and Horsted representative, 64, of Maidstone Road, Chatham, was thrown out of the party by Medway Council leader Rodney Chambers.

Brice was arrested on November 2 last year on suspicion of kerb crawling in Rochester and accepted a conditional caution from police.

Cllr Chambers said: "The Conservative Group on Medway Council believes all elected members should demonstrate and uphold the highest standards in public office and public life.

"A serious matter has arisen concerning Cllr Brice's private conduct outside of the council and the Conservative Group has taken the decision to expel Cllr Brice from membership of the group with immediate effect."

Kent firefighters in disaster zone

FIREFIGHTERS from Kent have been thanked by the Government for their help in the aftermath of the Haiti earthquake.

Douglas Alexander, international development secretary, said the people of Kent should be proud of their fire service.

"They are helping the people of Haiti at a time of dire need and their skills and experience are vital to the ongoing search for survivors in the rubble in Port-au-Prince," he said.

The six-strong group of Kent Fire and Rescue emergency workers flew out to Haiti's capital Port-au-Prince on Wednesday.

An earthquake measuring 7.0 on the Richter scale struck the island on Tuesday evening.

It is feared tens of thousands of residents are dead and up to three million have been affected by the devastation.

Potholes are 'thaw' point as KCC faces driver claims

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

COUNTY Hall is bracing itself for a torrent of compensation claims linked to the hundreds of potholes forming on Kent's roads.

Motorists forced to pay out for puncture and suspension damage repairs are expected to flood the council's mailbags with demands that the authority should foot the bill, at a potential cost to the taxpayer of tens of thousands of pounds.

The lengthy cold snap has left many of the county's major routes in a state of disrepair, with the potholes creating yet another hazard for road-users already long fed up with the snow and ice.

Earlier this week Kent County Council was forced to pay out £6,250 to Welling resident Kenneth Atkinson, who suffered a badly dislocated shoulder after falling from his bicycle in May, 2007.

The 76-year-old has since been forced to give up his hobby following the pothole encounter, which the council initially denied liability for.

Mr Atkinson's lawyer Paul Kitson said: "This case illustrates the difficulties in obtaining compensation from highway authorities.

"They rarely admit liability for accidents involving road defects and it is usually necessary to issue court proceedings. In this case Mr Atkinson's claim was delayed as a consequence of arguments between KCC and its third party contractors (Scotia Gas Networks)."

"His injuries have affected his quality of life."

The severity of the pothole problem became clear on Tuesday when at least eight drivers had to pull over on the M20 after suffering punctures to their tyres as a result of a particularly deep one.

Workmen closed two lanes of the London-bound carriageway while temporary repairs were carried out, causing a five-mile tailback during rush hour.

Jurisdiction

Motorways are the responsibility of the Highways Agency, but hundreds more potholes have also formed on the other main, side and rural roads that do fall within KCC's remit.

A section on the council's website makes it clear that a motorist has no automatic right to compensation, and that there must be clear evidence the council has been negligent in its role as a highways authority.

It reads: "KCC has a duty to take reasonable steps to maintain the highway network within its jurisdiction.

"However, it is accepted in law that the highway network cannot remain in a perfect condition at all times and that KCC should not automatically be held liable for all highway-related incidents.

"The fact a defect may have developed within the highway network and caused someone to suffer damage to their vehicle does not in itself mean KCC is liable to pay compensation."

For more information about making a claim, visit the roads and transport section of www.kent.gov.uk and click on 'fault reporting' followed by 'claims for damage'.

• *See pages 6-7 for more on the problems caused by the snow.*

Picture: BRIAN HOLMES

WHITE OUT: Many roads have been left damaged by potholes due to the cold snap

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It may look magical, but after weeks of heavy snow and treacherous conditions

NHS relief at break in the icy weather

FROZEN CITY: Dane John Gardens in Canterbury, and this robin redbreast (inset, right) were pictured by Oliver Mannion

By **MARIJKE COX**
marijke.cox@kosmedia.co.uk

HOSPITAL admissions during the cold snap almost doubled as people struggled to cope with icy footpaths and Arctic conditions.

Accident and emergency departments were inundated with broken bones and fractures as hundreds of residents slipped and fell on the county's pavements.

And despite the break in the freezing weather, roads and footpaths in some parts of Kent were still covered in ice and compacted snow this week, keeping up the pressure on the NHS.

While slippery pavements have led to comical stumbles over the last few weeks, it was no laughing matter as more serious falls led to bad breaks and, in some cases, surgery.

STREET SCENE: Simon Ralph of Lympne submitted this shot of snow falling

Some elderly residents were also admitted to hospital suffering respiratory problems due to the low temperatures.

Pressure on hospitals mounted as the weather worsened, forcing health chiefs to issue guidance on the most appropriate services to use so as not to swamp A&E.

South East Coast Ambulance Service declared a major incident and medical staff at some of the county's hospitals stayed at work overnight to make sure they were available for shifts the following day. Routine operations were also put on hold to give priority to those who required emergency surgery.

Over five days, A&E departments in Ashford and Margate saw 1,875 people and a further 615 attended the emergency care centre at Kent and Canterbury Hospital.

In total, NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent recorded a 40 per cent rise in the number of minor injury attendances.

Andrew Scott-Clark, deputy director for public health at NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent, encouraged people to use different health services, such as GPs or walk-in centres, to ease the pressure on hospitals. He stressed that A&E should be reserved for critical or life-threatening situations.

"People who inappropriately use the ambulance service and A&E departments for non-emergencies are diverting resources away from those who may be in desperate need of care and urgent attention."

Mr Scott-Clark added that the cold weather was especially dangerous for the elderly or people with serious illnesses and it was vital that resources were available for them.

In Medway, record numbers of patients

Two months of work and £1.5m for pothole repairs

MORE than £1.5 million is to be spent on highway repairs after heavy snow and freezing temperatures left huge potholes in many of the county's roads.

The funding will be in addition to £3m set aside in Kent County Council's annual budget to fix potholes. Repairs are needed across many of Kent's roads, damaged by what is known as a 'freeze thaw'.

This is when water and snow seeps into gaps, then freezes and expands, cracking the road surface as it does so.

County Hall could also face claims for compensation from hundreds of motorists who have suffered punctures and damaged suspension to their cars. KCC leader Cllr Paul Carter announced the extra funding as the severity of the situation became clear on Tuesday, when at least eight drivers had to pull over on the M20 after suffering punctured tyres after hitting a deep pothole.

Two lanes of the London-bound carriageway were closed for temporary repairs, causing a five-mile tailback during rush hour.

The funds – which will come from any underspend in the authority's budget – are in addition to an extra £576,000 reserved for repairs this winter.

Cllr Carter said: "We have had a sustained spell of severe weather that will cause considerable damage to our roads.

"We have been planning how we will tackle the pothole problem so we can provide the best service. We are increasing our budget by at least £1m to get Kent's roads repaired."

Last winter, an extra £500,000 was set aside for frost damage between January and March, caused mostly in February when the county saw heavy snowfall. This was on top of the usual day-to-day maintenance budgets.

Kent Highway Services identified £576,000 for this winter, but after the severe weather over the last three weeks, the total has increased to more than £1.5m.

Work will begin in March and is expected to run until May. KCC is planning to put the work out to tender, focusing on small and medium-sized Kent firms.

Despite a lull in the arctic weather, salt stocks are being replenished by KCC.

A spokesman said: "At the beginning of the winter we ordered a stockpile of 20,000 tonnes which was used during the prolonged period of freezing weather. We made 30 salting runs before Christmas and 30 runs since. The stocks are now being replenished."

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Kent counts the cost in damaged roads and extra pressure on A&E departments

were seen during the snowy conditions, which first hit Kent a week before Christmas.

In just five days 250 patients attended accident and emergency with fractures and sprains from slipping or falling. Jacqueline McKenna, director of nursing at Medway NHS Foundation Trust, said: "Many of these injuries required manipulation and surgery."

COLD PAWS: Buttons the cat in Maidstone

But she added that, despite the disruption, staff made sure it was business as usual.

"Many staff stayed at the hospital overnight to ensure they were available for their shifts," she said.

Health services in the west of the county also felt the pressure, with some clinical staff staying at work overnight. The A&E departments in Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells dealt with 325 fractures caused by slips between December 18 and January 10. This was an increase of 184 compared with the same period last year.

Darent Valley Hospital's A&E department saw a 10 per cent rise in attendances, with 4,258 people passing through its doors.

Sharon Jones, director of resilience planning at NHS West Kent, said: "It is not just the clinical staff, but also our receptionists, cooks, cleaners and drivers, for example, who are coming in to ensure we can continue to offer the services to those who need it."

South East Coast Ambulance Service recorded a 37 per increase of calls over two days and a 20 per cent rise in accidents.

RURAL IDYLL: Oast house in the snow was captured by Sheila Wellstead of Blackham

CHILLED OUT: Dougie the snowman, made by Zak Francis (10), Charlie Francis (13) and mum Moira Mitchell, from Maidstone

Unsung heroes are our first line of defence

FARMERS who spent days clearing snow from some of Kent's busiest roads say motorists are too quick to criticise when the weather turns bad, ***writes Steve Knight***.

While it is the Highways Agency's responsibility to grit the motorways and Kent County Council's to ensure other main routes are protected, it is the county's farmers who have perhaps the most difficult task of all in ploughing roads free of snow in the first place.

Michael Gallacher, who runs the GCS Group plant hire company from Woodstock Farm in Sittingbourne, told Kent on Sunday his role in the operation started on Wednesday, January 6, and did not stop until Sunday night.

He added: "The farmers who do this sort of thing work extremely hard and for very poor money from KCC, and I don't think the public realises what goes on behind the scenes.

"People are very quick to run the council down. Don't get me wrong, they're far from perfect, but all I know is we work on behalf of them and we work our socks off.

"If we all decided we didn't want to do it, Kent would grind to a halt. We spent last Wednesday night towing vehicles up and off Detling Hill with our tractors, but KCC doesn't have the equipment to do that."

Mr Gallacher revealed that every farmer who agrees to help plough the roads is given a specific area to target, with his stretching from the Isle of Sheppey, down into Maidstone and along the North Downs as far as Lenham.

DIGGING IN: Kent's farmers are crucial to the county's snow clearance efforts

Andrew Martin – a partner of Romney Marsh Farms – has responsibility for the nearby village of Burmarsh, as well as Brabourne and Hastingleigh, near Ashford.

He said: "What concerns me is the council doesn't realise how much it relies on us, because it's people like Michael and I who know which roads need to be cleared first and which parts drift over first.

"Last Saturday night I was ploughing until midnight and was up again at 4am.

"I know the council works hard to keep the roads safe, but I can't imagine their staff would work those sorts of hours."

KCC employs 180 farmers across the county to help with clearing snow, but Mr Gallacher says they aren't in it for the money.

He said: "Partly it is in our own interests, because a lot of us have livestock and need to get milk supplies and tractors out, but we're also part of the rural community and want to do our bit to help."

NHS reveals cost of binge boozing

By MARIJKE COX
marijke.cox@kosmedia.co.uk

HEALTH chiefs are backing government plans to stop cheap boozing in the hope it will stem the thousands of alcohol-related hospital admissions seen each year.

Their support came this week as ministers worked on a controversial price-fixing scheme where consumers could be forced to pay a minimum of 50p per unit of alcohol.

Health secretary Andy Burnham believes it would put a stop to Britain's binge-drinking culture, which is thought to be fuelled by cheap supermarket booze.

In Kent, alcohol-related hospital admissions are in the thousands, with medical staff dealing with a variety of cases including broken bones, head injuries and, in worst cases, liver disease from excessive drinking.

Damage

The county's health bosses have commended ministers' plans on price-fixing and launched a manifesto as part of the NHS Big Drink Debate campaign to curb binge-drinking.

Residents are being urged to sign up to the manifesto to try and help tackle the mounting number of alcohol-related issues.

The results will feed into future alcohol policies in the whole of the South East.

Dr Alison Milroy, of Bearsted Medical Practice in Maidstone, called for people to sign it: "As GPs, we see the damage alcohol does.

"I am therefore pleased to see the focus of the Big Drink Debate manifesto. It recognises the range of health problems to which, as GPs well know, alcohol can contribute.

"Measures such as enabling adults of all ages to be more aware of alcohol-related health issues and helping employers develop appropriate and supportive policies are all important ways to address the problems associated with excessive drinking."

In 2007-08, 5,036 people were admitted to hospital in West Kent through the accident and emergency department for booze-related conditions. In 2002-03 the figure was 2,262.

The number of hospital admissions for conditions partly attributable to alcohol consumption in 2007-08 just in the West Kent area was a staggering 15,745.

Linda Prickett, NHS West Kent's public health specialist, said: "The total cost of hospital admissions in 2007-08 was estimated at £500,000 for conditions entirely caused by alcohol abuse and £2.9 million for conditions partially attributable to alcohol.

"These represent only a proportion of the total healthcare costs as they exclude A&E attendance, general practice, outpatients and community services."

In Medway, 2007-08 saw 3,983 booze-related admissions, although Aeilish Geldenhuys, Medway's NHS senior public health manager, said they are seeing a drop.

"We believe the action being taken will further address these problems," she said. "Binge drinking is always dangerous and the recommended intake for women is 14 units a week and 21 for men."

In East Kent, the number of booze-related admissions through accident and emergency was 7,798 in 2008-09. This figure has risen by 1,803 in just two years.

HIGH STREET HELL: Binge drinking is a common sight at weekends across Kent

Across the whole South East Coast region, including Kent, the figure stands at 39,603 cases for 2008-09, according to the South East Coast Strategic Health Authority.

The recent MPs' report stressed there should be a minimum pricing for alcohol, health warnings on bottles, and a tax rise on spirits.

Regressive

A spokesman for the Campaign for Real Ale said this will benefit pubs which are in competition with cheap supermarket pricing, as well as targeting the problem of binge-drinking

But plans have also come up against opposition, with some saying moderate drinkers will suffer if changes take place.

Shadow Health Secretary Andrew Lansley said: "This is not the way to tackle binge drinking. It would be deeply regressive and would raise taxes on the least well off in society while the rich would be unaffected."

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Kent's top officer facing questions over climate protest, while MPs also grill him

Chief's Commons job interview

KENT'S Chief Constable Michael Fuller has told MPs why he believes he should be the next head of the Crown Prosecution Service.

Mr Fuller – who is Britain's first black police chief – has been selected by Attorney General Baroness Scotland as the preferred candidate to replace current chief inspector Stephen Wooler, whose contract at the CPS expires at the end of March.

An announcement regarding Mr Fuller's future is due to be made on Thursday.

Earlier this week he told the House of Common's justice committee why he thought he was a more suitable choice for the role than a former judge or lawyer. He said: "While I don't have knowledge of the day-to-day work of a crown prosecutor, I bring knowledge of the system and experience of being a stakeholder of the CPS. I have experience of running organisations and police departments successfully."

Mr Fuller told the committee that adjusting to policy changes and providing value for money represent two of the biggest challenges for the chief inspector of the CPS, but that he was fully prepared to cope with both.

He also refuted a suggestion by Sleaford and North Hykeham MP Douglas Hogg that the police and CPS had an "incestuous" relationship and were too closely linked for one to be scrutinised by the other.

Mr Fuller said: "Decision-making has always been independent and I think the public would see me as someone who would bring objectivity and scrutiny where it's needed.

"You need a certain degree of knowledge of the CPS and how it works, and more importantly of the rubbing points. I've seen them at first hand and can therefore make recommendations that are credible."

Mr Fuller joined Kent Police as chief constable in January, 2004, having been with the Met since 1975. Should he be appointed the new chief inspector of the CPS, it is believed his current deputy Adrian Leppard will fill in until a permanent replacement can be found.

NEW JOB: Chief Constable Michael Fuller

Police admit abuse of stop and search

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

KENT Police have admitted using stop-and-search powers illegally in what could prove a landmark case for Kingsnorth Climate Camp protestors.

Lawyers representing Chief Constable Mike Fuller told the High Court the force accepted its officers wrongfully searched at least three demonstrators – including 11-year-old twins – who attended the summer 2008 rally.

They also admitted that an unspecified number of other protestors could also have been unlawfully stopped, potentially opening the door for further legal action to be brought against the police.

Hundreds of similar cases are already going through the system, with one lawyer describing the cost to the taxpayer as potentially "staggering".

However, Mr Fuller's representative Richard Perks told the two High Court judges it was not accepted the police had secretly applied a blanket unlawful stop-and-search policy at the camp.

Policy

He said there had been a "clear and lawful" policy and the huge majority of those stopped had not been done so illegally, but accepted there had been "a misapplication of a clear policy by officers on the ground".

Section 1 of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 states officers must have "reasonable suspicion" that an individual is carrying prohibited weapons or articles that could be used for criminal damage before they are stopped and searched.

Mr Perks added that while guidance given to individual officers was correct and accurate, "on occasions it was misapplied in practice".

The announcement came just hours after the European Court of Human Rights ruled it illegal for police to use terror laws to use stop and search without grounds for suspicion.

Home Secretary Alan Johnson said he was disappointed with the decision and would appeal against it.

REACTION: Kent Police have received much criticism for the way they dealt with the Kingsnorth Climate Camp in 2008

The environmental rally at Kingsnorth in summer 2008 was over E.ON's plans to build a new coal-fired power station, which the company put on hold for up to three years last October.

Politicians, protestors and academics involved in the demonstration have always claimed the police response was disproportionate to the threat posed by the activists.

Officers were also accused of being heavy-handed with campaigners, seizing hundreds of personal items including soap and board games. They also took a clown's wig, crayons and highlighter pens belonging to the twin children involved in this week's High Court hearing.

The judges heard how one of the youngsters – who cannot be named for legal reasons – was left "crying and shaking" after a female officer said he had to be searched.

He feared he would "go to prison" because he had stickers in his bag similar to ones already confiscated from other people.

Long-standing environmental campaigner David Morris, from north London, was also at the court and said he was forcibly searched against his will.

All three are seeking judicial review into police powers and potential damages.

The case has been adjourned while further evidence is considered before a settlement is reached or a full court hearing called for.

Kent Police declined to comment.

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The next big thing to play intimate gig

Rising star pops in on her way to the big time

By **JON COATES**
jon.coates@kosmedia.co.uk

POP sensation Ellie Goulding will perform during a week of events celebrating the anniversary of Kent's longest running music venue.

The Forum in Tunbridge Wells was launched 17 years ago, transforming itself from a public toilet into a popular venue.

It has built up a reputation for attracting some of the biggest new acts on the music scene. And this will continue with its Party Week from next Saturday, with Ellie Goulding headlining a gig on Wednesday, January 27.

The 23-year-old from Hertfordshire, who studied at the University of Kent in Canterbury, has been tipped as the hottest emerging act of 2010.

Goulding, who combines acoustic guitar with electronic and futuristic dance beats in a style dubbed 'folktronica', topped the BBC's Sound of 2010 list. This is compiled from the tips of 165 music critics, broadcasters and bloggers. Previous winners Little Boots (2009), Adele (2008), Mika (2007) and Corinne Bailey Rae (2006) have all gone on to have major success.

Goulding, who has already supported Little Boots on tour and appeared on Jools Holland's TV show Later, has been putting the finishing touches to her debut album with top producer Mark Ronson.

It is due to be released in the spring, so this could be one of the last opportunities to see the rising singer-songwriter in an intimate venue before she hits the big time.

She will be supported by Tunbridge Wells singer Klaus Says Buy The Record, who appeared Channel 4's Mobile Act Unsigned and The Help Movement.

OPPORTUNITY: Rising star Ellie Goulding is to perform at The Forum birthday bash

The Party Week kicks off on Saturday, January 23, with Spycatcher, which includes members of Gallows; The Painted Smiles, which is made up of musicians from Sikth and Unkle; and Feed the Rhino, a Kent band just signed to the management company of Gallows.

Then on Monday, January 25, the Forum's famed battle of the bands competition returns for its ninth year. Stage 9 will see The Antics, Black Hawks, and The Separation go head-to-head for the title.

The night after Goulding's gig will see a secret guest, Son of Kirk and local boy Tom Williams, from Tom Williams and The Boat, perform an exclusive solo show.

New Future Music will present a Heartbreak DJ set and Doop DJs on Friday, January 29, before the finale of the week brings Dogs, Allegro, Needs Must and Filthy Nights to the venue on the Saturday.

For more details see www.twforum.co.uk.

Lucy's Live and Unsigned

FORMER Kent student Lucy Kitt is taking on the nation in a massive national talent show similar to the X Factor.

The 23-year-old, originally from Essex and now living in Canterbury, is already making a living doing gigs around the county.

Hungry for more, she has won her way into taking part in Live and Unsigned.

She said: "I play guitar and sing. Music is my life and I am determined to do well in this."

Lucy attended an audition for Live and Unsigned in Pitsea, Essex, and is now looking forward to the live regional finals in Basildon's Townsgate Theatre in March.

She said: "If I am successful there it will be on to the final, so I will be trying hard to impress the judges and audience. I have to play one original song and one cover."

Acts perform in front of thousands of spectators and a professional judging panel to progress to the Live and Unsigned Festival at the 02 in London. More than 10,000 acts have auditioned from across the UK.

The winners this year get to do as many as 100 gigs across the UK, including the chance to perform live at some well-known festivals.

TALENTED MUSICIAN: Lucy Kitt lists Neil Young among her folk-rock influences

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Rail users hit in the pocket by Whitehall's transport review

By **MARIJKE COX**

COMMUTERS across Kent are facing higher travel charges following a Government review of transport policy.

And train passengers parking in many of the station car parks will now also find they have to fork out more money on parking costs.

The changes – which came into effect last week – form part of the Department of Transport's new policy which involves reducing the subsidies it pays into the industry. As a result, commuter fares for Southeastern's unregulated off-peak tickets have increased by 7.3 per cent, and others by 2.8 per cent.

Fares from outside of the Travelcard area, including the London underground, have seen a 1.6 per cent increase. Some ticket prices, however, have stayed the same.

A spokesman for Southeastern said: "Government says the budget for running the cost of the railways should not be paid by subsidies through the taxpayer. The Government has stated it should be put back on those who use the service – it will not subsidise the cost of the railways as in Europe.

"What Government is doing is reducing the subsidies it pays to us, but to compensate it is allowing us to increase the ticket prices."

Charles Horton, managing director at Southeastern, added: "The majority of our passengers are commuters who travel into London on a daily basis. Most of these are season ticket holders and any changes to their fares are regulated by the Department for Transport. The Government's stated policy is to reduce the subsidy paid to the transport industry and for passengers to pay more towards the cost of using rail services."

But Tunde Olatunji, South East spokesman for Passenger Focus, an independent rail consumer watchdog, believes commuters will place the blame with Southeastern rather than the Government.

He said: "Southeastern may use the lack of government subsidies as its defence, but for the passenger it is Southeastern they pay the money to and therefore the company people will hold responsible for the changes."

He added: "This all comes down to value for money. If costs are increasing the passengers will want to see the service improving."

Car parking costs have also gone up at the majority of station car parks in Kent, but Southeastern defended this by saying it is the first change the company has made in 18 months. "In terms of car parking, the majority of station car park prices have gone up by differing amounts," a spokesman said.

"This has been done to help cover running costs. We are simply bringing this in line with what has to be paid to Network Rail and money for the upkeep of the car parks."

Mr Olatunji said although car parking is a business and people have to pay to park, the level of service should be kept up.

"Passengers have to pay parking costs, otherwise there would be too much pressure on the car parks," he said.

"The issue is about how much Southeastern charge in relation to the level of service offered.

"There was a case at Hollingbourne station where a car was stolen, but when the police checked the CCTV there was no tape in there."

For more information go to www.southeasternrailway.co.uk.

REGULATED FARES FROM JANUARY 2010

	2009			JANUARY 2010		
STATION	Return	Monthly	Annual	Return	Monthly	Annual
Orpington	£9.80	£139	£1,448	£9.80	£139	£1,448
Tonbridge	£22.90	£288	£3,000	£23.30	£292.60	£3,048
Hastings	£46.30	£368.60	£3,840	£47.10	£368.60	£3,840
Ashford Int	£40.60	£362.90	£3,780	£41.30	£368.60	£3,840
Ashford Int High Speed	£48.70	£435.50	£4,536	£49.50	£442.40	£4,608
Ramsgate	£47.00	£366.70	£3,820	£47.80	£372.50	£3,880
Ramsgate High Speed	£55.10	£439.30	£4,576	£56.00	£446.20	£4,648
Faversham	£35.90	£345.60	£3,600	£36.50	£351	£3,656
Faversham High Speed	£41.30	£415.90	£4,332	£41.90	£422	£4,396

OFF-PEAK (UNREGULATED) DAY RETURN FROM JAN 2010

	OFF-PEAK RETURN		SUPER OFF-PEAK RTN	
STATION	2009	Jan 2010	2009	Jan 2010
Sevenoaks	£8.80	£9.40	n/a	n/a
Margate (not HS)	£25.30	£27.10	£18.10	£18.60
Hastings	£24.20	£26.00	£18.10	£18.60
Sittingbourne	£16.00	£17.20	£14.10	£14.50
Sittingbourne High Speed	£18.70	£20.10	n/a	n/a
Folkestone Central	£24.60	£26.40	£18.10	£18.60
Folkestone Central High Speed	£28.70	£30.80	n/a	n/a

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THE CONSULTANTS' CHOICE

'Yeah but, no but' is a breakdown in communication

SOCIAL networking sites, text messaging and internet chat rooms could be breeding a generation of Vicky Pollards, according to new research, ***writes Marijke Cox***.

The report, commissioned by supermarket giant Tesco, found that although children have around 40,000 words in their vocabulary, they use only 800, with the most-used being 'yeah', 'but' and 'no' – infamously used by TV's Little Britain character Pollard.

Experts say young people are so used to communicating in shortened language online, they are starting to speak in the same way.

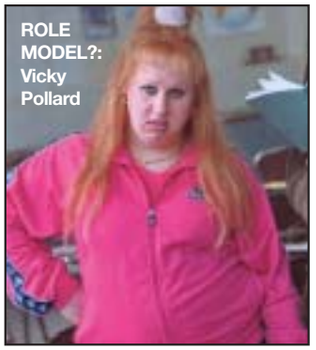
There are fears that some are so inarticulate – favouring what is known as 'teenspeak' over the more traditional language – they will have trouble getting a job when they leave school.

To combat the problem, Jean Gross, England's first-ever Communication Champion for Children, is launching a nationwide campaign to make sure young people use the full range of language. She will target children across the board, from primary to secondary school, and hopes to get QI presenter Stephen Fry to help with the mammoth task.

But in Kent the issue is already being tackled though Connexions, a service which offers information and advice to 13 to 19-year-olds.

The organisation has employment liaison consultants to ensure young people are prepared for the workplace when they leave school.

Sharon Good, who covers the Swale and Canterbury areas, said it is about teaching children how to be articulate.



ROLE MODEL?: Vicky Pollard

"I haven't come across many teenagers who use 'teenspeak', I think it's more a case of showing them how to be articulate," she said.

"They just need help and encouragement for when they are in a situation where they need to sell themselves. Many of them are learning new skills so we give them the information and support to help them.

"There are simple things they may not know like, for example, shaking hands. They may not have been in a situation where they have had to do this. We give them four interview tips; touch, eye contact, name and smile."

Ms Good said she will often ask a young person about their qualities and help translate them into appropriate language for an interview.

"For example, if someone says they are a good listener I will show them how to turn this around for an interview to 'I have good communication skills'," she said.

But Ms Good said when it comes to filling in applications there are times when young people will use shortened words.

This mirrors the rise in social networking sites, such as Facebok, Bebo and MySpace where people use abbreviations such as 'u' for 'you', '4' as 'for' and 'b' for 'be'.

Ms Good said: "Everyone is so used to shortening words because of email and text, so we just show them how to fill out applications and CVs as an employer would expect."

Connexions also run mock interviews with outside evaluators to give teenagers real experience.

"Our main aim is to give young people the knowledge of what skills they need for the workplace. Most of them know the different ways to act around different people, but many are just faced with a lack of experience."

For more information about Connexions go to www.connexionskentandmedway.co.uk.

Elderly man stabbed to death

A MAN whose body was found in a Chatham flat was killed by a single stab wound, police have revealed.

The man, who has not been formally identified, was discovered inside the Copperfield House building in New Road at 14.45pm on Saturday, January 9.

It is known that he is in his 60s.

A 69-year-old Chatham man was arrested on Monday, January 11, on suspicion of murder.

He has been released on police bail while investigations continue.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Kent Police on 01634 884010 or Kent CrimeStoppers on 0800 555 111

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- 10am - 12pm. A demonstration of our new website and DVDs showcasing our services
- 12:30pm - 1:30pm. A chance to question senior NHS staff on a 'Question Time' panel
- Copies of the Agenda and papers will be available on our website, please visit www.eckcommunityservices.nhs.uk

For questions relating to the agenda please contact:
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Corporate Services Manager
Tel: 01227 795037
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SAD: Bob the Builder tragically had to be put down, but many other horses can be saved by the care and attention they will get at Brownbread Horse Rescue Centre

Good neigh-bours needed to support rescue centre work

By **CHRIS MURPHY**

AN INTERNATIONAL horse judge is regularly putting her life on the line taking care of hundreds of horses.

With her husband Tony Smith, Dinty Steains runs the Brownbread Horse Rescue Centre which operates widely in the county, taking care of horses that have been subjected to mind-numbing cruelty.

She said: "I have been doing this for many years, and yet year after year, we are seeing the same people carrying out such awful cruelty to their horses.

"And if you point out what they are doing wrong, they often become very aggressive. I was once attacked by a man with a sword.

"It can be very scary but I am doing this for the horses, not my own well-being."

When asked why so many people would bother obtaining horses and then letting them die starving in fields, she said: "I wish I knew. If they can't look after them, why do they get more? I just don't understand it."

She said her charity operates across the South East using an army of volunteers, often women and girls, but they still need more help.

Dinty, from Ashburnham, East Sussex, said: "It's hard enough doing this in the summer, but with the weather we have had recently, our volunteers are literally risking their lives getting to the herds to feed them and provide water that is not frozen solid.

"We do need some more public help, but we are doing this for the love of the horses – we do not get paid ourselves. Everyone is a volunteer except one girl we pay as a groom."

She added: "The situation is out of control. No matter how many times some of these owners are taken to court, they simply carry on getting new horses and allowing them to starve and die in the fields.

"It is heartbreaking work, but we are determined to carry on despite the dangers of abuse and violence.

"We are saving some of them, but we know we can't get to all the horses in need and many more are dying. We are monitoring over 100 in Kent at the moment, but there are so many more we can't get to."

Mr Smith said: "The real tragedy is that a large number of our visits are repeats from being investigated a year ago. Some of the big cases are re-offenders, they just carry on as if nothing has happened.

"It is very distressing for our team to deal with herds of neglected horses, waiting for someone to come with food and water."

He added: "We are all volunteers and to carry on the work we need support in the way of money, hay, feed, rugs, horse gear and the loan or donation of a 4x4 vehicle.

"We have field officers all over the UK but our main area of operation is Kent, Surrey and Sussex."

For more information contact Dinty Steains, Ashburnham, Battle, TN33 9NX or call 01424 892381. Tony Smith is always willing to give talks to groups or clubs, for details email tony.brownbread@tesco.net.

Your guide to days out

THE new, free, edition of Visit Kent magazine is now available.

It's packed full of details about things to do in Kent, from family days out to great shopping tips.

Within the magazine there's also a what's on section, accommodation guide and the chance to win a luxury spa break.

Nightlife, arts and culture, historic buildings and the county's fascinating maritime heritage are also under the spotlight.

You can pick up a copy of the glossy magazine at visitor information centres, tourist attractions and hotels, or alternatively you can read the e-edition at kentnews.co.uk.

■ SEVENTY per cent of people who voted in a poll at kentnews.co.uk think more grammar schools should be built in Kent.

Only 30 per cent of the 1,513 people who voted thought more grammar schools should not be created.

However, neither of the main parties seems likely to sanction more grammar schools in the county, whichever of them wins the next general election.

It's a long walk to Parliament

World record holder to challenge MP

By STEVE KNIGHT
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

THE only man to have ever crossed the entire Western Hemisphere on foot is to run for Parliament.

Medway resident George Meegan's epic journey – which was carried out between 1977 and 1983 – saw him walk from the southern tip of South America to the northernmost part of Alaska, earning the former merchant seaman several world records along the way.

CHALLENGE: George Meegan will stand against Paul Clarke MP

But the 57-year-old told KOS Media this week that despite experiencing some of the most desperate situations throughout the course of his 19,000-mile trek, he expects it will still prove easier than winning a Parliamentary seat at this year's general election.

Mr Meegan said: "Running for Parliament is dependant on other people being brave enough to vote for me, whereas when I was on the road I only had to depend upon myself.

"The chances of being elected are astronomically small – probably somewhat worse than being struck by lightning – but nevertheless we can get the word out about what I would like to stand for.

"It's all about democracy, and we should celebrate that."

Mr Meegan, who recounts his seven-year journey in his book The Longest Walk, plans to stand as an independent against current Labour transport minister Paul Clark for the Gillingham and Rainham constituency.

Father-of-two Mr Meegan grew up in Rainham and also has a home in Kobe, Japan, where he works as a lecturer of maritime English at the University of Mercantile Marine.

He said that when he canvasses support for his election campaign, he will inform residents of his plans for educational reform.

Mr Meegan explained: "From the crucible of the longest journey I was able to meet tens of thousands of people – many of them children – and it gave me a feeling of how the power of youth is such a magical thing.

"It got me thinking as to what a young person needs to be successful in the 21st century, but I'm afraid that what they need is quite different to what's going on in schools.

"Exams don't work with all kids. There are many who don't really function with that sort of thing, but their talent doesn't seem to be illuminated in any way.

"I would like to pick up the kids who are rejected by the school system and who are running around frightening old people.

"I'd try to find out what their interests are and use that as the centre of their education, rather than symmetrical equations or whatever else they might be being taught.

"It's about finding out what they are good at rather than blowing them out of the water when they can't do what's on the syllabus."

Mr Meegan added that should he be defeated in his run for Parliament, he will still consider opening a centre for youngsters in need of inspiration.

He added: "If we could get this sort of thing off the ground it could be a great model for the rest of the UK.

"Unfortunately the main political parties don't want to know."

Chief executive job title changed

KENT County Council is advertising for a 'group managing director' to replace outgoing chief executive Peter Gilroy.

According to council leader Cllr Paul Carter, the job title has been deliberately altered to reflect the fact the heads of the authority's four main services are all called managing directors.

However, it is rumoured the council is hoping the change will attract applicants from outside the local government sector.

Whoever lands what Cllr Carter is calling "the biggest job in local government" can expect an annual salary of £185,000 – some £65,000 less than Mr Gilroy earned in 2007-08.

Mr Gilroy, who was appointed chief executive in 2005, will step down in May.

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■ VANDALS slashed the tyres of 17 cars during a three-day crime spree in Gillingham and Chatham.

The vehicles were attacked during the early hours of the morning between Saturday, January 9 and Monday, January 11.

The cars were parked in a number of locations, including St Johns Road, Gillingham, Chatham Hill, Upper Luton Road, Magpie Hall Road and Glencoe Road, Chatham.

Detective Sergeant Chris Dovey said: "All of these offences are acts of mindless vandalism that have disrupted a number of residents in Medway.

"These acts of criminal damage will not be tolerated and those responsible will face prosecution if caught."

Call police on 01634 792257 or Kent CrimeStoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

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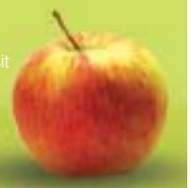

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Medway Serving You

By **MARIJKE COX**
marijke.cox@kosmedia.co.uk

Restoring our rare Favourite

THE history of one of Kent's last remaining oyster 'yawls' is being uncovered this month as part of a special campaign to preserve the century-old boat.

Fishing vessel Favourite, which was built in 1890, is one of only two of the 100 oyster yawls in the county to survive years of treacherous fishing trips and shelling during the two world wars.

To celebrate its survival, volunteers from The Favourite Trust, a group set up in 1977 to ensure the future of the boat, are holding an exhibition at the Whitstable Museum and Gallery.

The free event has already proved so successful that organisers have extended it until next Saturday.

Peter Banbury, of the Trust, said since it first opened in November there has been plenty of interest.

"There's a lot of history surrounding Favourite, and people – especially those from Whitstable – have been very interested," he said. "At all times of year they walk past the boat and so now there's a chance for them to learn a bit more about her."

The yawl was commissioned in 1890 by retired London policeman Edward 'Pikey' Carden and built by the Whitstable Shipping Company.

She was sold to the Whitstable Oyster Fishery Company in 1918, but years later, during World War Two in 1944, she was gunned by a German aircraft and beached.

In 1952, writer Harry Hurford-Janes purchased the boat for £50 and it was hauled into his cottage garden by the seawall, where it remained for almost three decades.

Picture: JOHN BIRD

BOAT: Many have walked past Favourite, now they can find out about her

But in 1978, the new owners of the cottage offered Favourite to the community and she was moved to a plot of land next door.

Mr Banbury said: "Although from the outside the boat looked fine, from the inside she was rotten. A group of us decided to look after the boat and formed The Favourite Trust so we could get it back to its former state."

Around £100,000 was required to restore the boat, with half of this much-needed money coming from the Heritage Lottery Fund. Other funding came from the Maritime Heritage Trail, Living Spaces and donations from people and organisations.

Mr Banbury said: "We wanted to preserve a bit of heritage so frames and planks that had not rotted away were incorporated into the new hull which was made using a set of replica frames made with the help of drawings taken of her in 1980."

The boat is now located on Island Wall on the Whitstable seafront.

The only other oyster yawl in Kent is located in Faversham.

• ***For more details visit www.favourite.org.uk.***

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Kent pupils achieve another year of record GCSE results

By **MARIJKE COX**

THE number of children achieving top GCSE results has risen for the eighth year running, according to new Government figures.

School Achievement and Attainment Tables, published by the Department for Children, Schools and Families this week, showed an increase in the number of Kent pupils gaining five GSCEs compared to this time last year.

Teenagers achieving five A*-C grades between 2008 and 2009, rose by 5.4 per cent – around 850 students – to 73 per cent.

The tables also showed the number of Key Stage Four pupils, aged 15-16, gaining A*-C grades in English and maths had risen by two per cent to 52 per cent since 2008.

This beat the UK average of 49.8 per cent.

Dover Grammar School for Girls, Cranbrook School, Dartford Grammar School for Girls, Invicta Grammar School for Girls, The Judd School, Oakwood Park Grammar and Tunbridge Wells Grammar School for Girls saw all their students gaining a minimum of five GCSEs.

And schools in the Government's National Challenge programme – which looks to ensure 30 per cent of children gain five higher-grade GCSEs including in English and maths – were praised for showing excellent improvements.

Cllr Sarah Hohler, cabinet member for children, families and education at KCC, put the success down to the commitment and support seen throughout Kent's schools.

"I'm very impressed by what I have seen – students, teachers and parents should be very proud of these results," she said.

"Our vision is to give Kent's young people the best possible start in life by providing the best education for every child. Vocational subjects are also very important. Students should be able to do things that interest them. Exams are important, but there are others things that are just as essential."

Cllr Hohler also paid tribute to the federation scheme which has seen a number of schools teaming up to be run under one governing body.

Two of the schools now working in this way are Dane Court Grammar School, in Broadstairs, and King Ethelbert, in Birchington.

Kind Ethelbert was dubbed a 'failing' school by Government in 2008, when GCSE results showed it had not made the 30 per cent pass rate set out by the National Challenge. But instead of closing it down and forming an academy – the normal outcome for 'failing' schools – it was teamed up with Dane Court Grammar.

Headteacher Paul Luxmoore took over the running of both schools and since the move King Ethelbert has showed a 20 per cent improvement in grades, with more than a third of pupils achieving five GCSEs at grade C or above.

Mr Luxmoore said: "It has created a very positive change within the schools. Students work together and they have benefited from it – confidence levels have really grown."

Rosalind Turner, managing director for children, families and education, said the key to Kent's success is providing high quality early years education, followed by excellent primary and secondary education.

"This is so that every child can reach their expected level of progress and attainment," she said. "They learn at different rates and have different interests and abilities. Personal circumstances and challenges are also a factor. That is why we are developing a vision for learning which starts from birth and continues through adulthood."

GOVERNMENT'S TARGETS CRITICISED

HEADTEACHERS celebrating record GCSE results have criticised the Government's targets set out in the National Challenge.

Despite high results across Kent, school leaders slammed the system which requires every secondary school to ensure 30 per cent of its pupils gain five higher-grade GCSEs, including English and maths. Schools unable to meet these targets face being closed down and turned into an academies.

But concerns were raised at a meeting at Kent County Council about schools with a high percentage of special educational needs pupils who struggle with some subjects, making it harder for them to reach the necessary grades.

But results showed a marked improvement in a number of Kent schools at risk under the National Challenge programme and education chiefs at KCC called on the Government to ensure future funding is available to support the system.

Another issue raised at the meeting was the shortage of teachers, particularly in maths and English. This was blamed on the pressures faced by teachers in core subjects in relation to the National Challenge.

Absences by pupils was also an issue as figures were released this week showing the county average for persistent absentees was 6.6 per cent – higher than the UK average of 5.9 per cent. This was blamed, in some cases, on social problems where some parents and children do not see education as important.

Undertakers' obesity headache

FUNERALS can be big affairs, and they are getting larger all the time, ***writes Chris Murphy***.

As we all get heavier as a nation, the dearly departed are causing more problems in death, say undertakers.

John Weir runs several undertakers' offices in Kent, and is also the UK spokesman for the National Society of Allied and Independent Funeral Directors.

He said although the complications caused by oversize bodies is not widespread yet, it is getting worse as we eat more in life.

His company has invested in an electric hoist to move bodies around and lower them into larger-than-life coffins, and he said many hospital mortuaries have done the same.

He said: "We have to think of the health and safety of our staff. Some people are large when they die, and we need to behave in a thoroughly professional and dignified manner at all times."

The complications continue when it comes to the actual funeral itself. Cranes have been known to lift coffins into double-sized graves before the congregation arrives to avoid any embarrassing scenes.

Some councils are charging by the foot for their graves – so the bigger the body and coffin, the more the plot costs.

Cranes

Mr Weir said: "Crematoria don't usually do that – it's just one flat charge."

But he said Vinters Park in Maidstone has recently introduced a larger cremator which is 41 inches wide as opposed to the more usual 28 just to cope with an increase in larger coffins.

He said there is a knock-on effect for the taxpayers as local authorities have to pay for the installation of the new cremators.

He added: "The charges for the funeral are the same though whether you are five stone or 50."

The larger facilities are needed for bodies weighing more than 25st.

With bigger coffins comes the problem of transporting them with some bodies fitting into standard hearses. Again, usually away from the eyes of relatives, the body is then transported using vans or even sometimes lorries fitted with cranes to lower them straight into the over-sized grave.

The knock-on effect is that cemeteries run out of valuable space quicker, forcing some authorities to reuse old plots.

Mr Weir said the largest person he had buried had been around 31st and needed a coffin 3ft 2in wide.

He added: "The main concern we have is to ensure a family is not exposed to any indignity. If someone is very large, then we would convey the remains, with the family's consent, to the cemetery and the grave without them being present, so that when they arrive they are not faced with the indignity of seeing the staff struggling."

Coffin maker Julian Atkinson said his products are now larger by two inches in length and width. He said: "We now have to be quite creative – by maybe using a cigar-shaped coffin or casket which is less tapered.

"We used to do one a month that was oversized, and now it is a two or three a week.

"In the last five years or so, the numbers of these ones has gone up tenfold. It used to be unusual, now it is common practice."

SUPER-SIZE: Larger coffins are becoming icreasingly common as the size of the nation goes up, giving funeral directors a bigger challenge

Schoolchildren given freedom to leave county

STUDENTS will soon be able to use the Kent Freedom Pass to go to schools outside the county.

Kent County Council has decided that from September the scheme should be expanded for students travelling beyond the county boundary.

More than 21,000 passes have been issued since the scheme was introduced in June, 2007.

For a £50 upfront annual fee, students in years seven to 11 can travel free anytime, anywhere.

About 600,000 journeys a month are being made for trips to school, leisure and social activities.

A call for Kent Freedom Pass to be made available to all secondary school and college students was turned down.

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Soldier's book shows graphic horror of war

By CHRIS MURPHY
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

HE WENT from the mean streets of Gravesend facing a dead-end life of drink, drugs and trouble to the bitter killing fields of the Gulf war and on to the slightly more genteel world of art.

Now a Kent soldier has written a graphic novel to help him beat his demons. Glenn Fitzpatrick, 38, wants other battle-scarred vets to read it, to help them forget the nightmare of war.

He is known as Fitzy and he also has an exhibition of his art at a major London gallery.

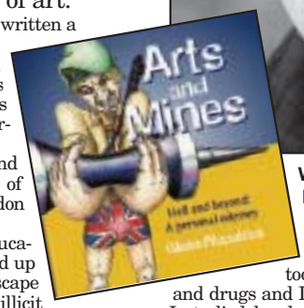
With pretty much no education behind him, he signed up for military service to escape the downward spiral of illicit chemicals. But in the Queens Royal Irish Hussars, Fizty came face to face with the horrors of war as he drove an armoured personnel carrier to pick up horrifically injured Iraqi soldiers while their comrades hailed more bullets on the medics.

He told KOS Media: "I was in the first Gulf War in 1991 and being shot at. It was only 100 hours, but it felt like a lifetime of intense battles.

"I saw things I would rather not have. Bullets leave large holes in people and we were there to try and save the people we had just attacked. It was crazy with all the bullets peppering our armoured ambulance.

"And we never knew if we were going to come under attack from the chemical weapons we had been told so much about. It really was a living nightmare."

After the war, he left to find peace in study and art. But in 1998 it was discovered he was suffering from a cyst under the base of his brain which required a 10-hour operation to remove it in 1999. He said: "It all helped me realise life's too short to waste on drink and drugs and I threw myself into my art. I studied hard and graduated with a 2.1 which is not bad for a Gravesend dyslexic war dog."



WAR TORN: Glenn Fitzpatrick has used art to help him move on

He got his MA in fine art in 2001.

Fitzy, who now lives in Canterbury, said: "I consider myself lucky and I would like to think other war vets who are finding it hard to adapt to life away from the battlefield will find something to laugh about and relate to in this book.

"I worked hard on making sure it is all there – good and bad. I wanted it to be completely honest. As a therapy, there is little to beat art. It helped me be human again."

Fitzy's art will be at the Brick Lane Gallery, London, from January 28 to February 8 as part of the Art in Mind exhibition.

The book Arts and Mines is a graphic autobiography in his own words and pictures.

It will be published by Aerocomm on January 26, and available from Amazon.

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Kent Highway Services

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Lecturer hopes to discover the power of films at uni screening

THE role documentaries play in the shaping of society will be explored with a number of screenings and discussions at the University of Kent, ***writes Steve Knight***.

Films covering topics such as undercover investigations, the justice system and climate change will be shown as part of the Film and Advocacy Series, which has been organised by the School of Anthropology and Conservation.

Each screening will be followed by a discussion on the themes included in the documentaries, with some of the people who created them taking part.

Social anthropology lecturer Dr Mike Poltorak described the series as a "timely opportunity to engage with the power of advocacy films".

He added: "We are looking forward to being inspired and guided by the challenging work of the visiting film-makers. I am expecting to learn much from the many and unexpected ways people will respond to the films.

"The participation of people with wide and different experiences and knowledge of the issues should make for some interesting discussions. They will also give us an opportunity to question and consider how films inspire us and others to make the changes necessary to address the key issues of our time."

A total of six documentaries – including Hugh Brody's The Meaning of Life, about a Canadian prison run by Aborigines – will be screened at the university over five weeks from Wednesday. The first five films will take place at the Keynes Lecture Theatre on the university's Canterbury campus, between 6-8pm on Wednesdays.

Visit www.filmadvocacy.moonfruit.com for more information.

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Memorials leaving some golfers a little teed-off

GOLFERS are finding it harder to keep an eye on their balls as courses become increasingly cluttered with memorial seats.

Although club managers understand the sentiment behind the tributes, many are struggling to find room to put them.

And in some cases players have even complained about access around the greens where there have been so many benches.

But one club in Kent has come up with a new system to ensure families can pay tribute to their loved ones, without cluttering up the course.

Charles Maxted, manager of Sittingbourne and Milton Regis Golf Club, said he is encouraging people to sponsor a tree as a memorial.

"We've reached a stage where we have so many seats we can't put them all out at once," he said.

"We have about 30 at the moment. I don't know whether this is causing problems to golfers, but we are encouraging people to have a tree planted instead."

Mr Maxted said the golf course could look like a park if more memorial seats came in and that they were already being put out on a rota basis so only a set number were out at one time.

"We would never turn somebody down if they wished to have a memorial bench, but we are encouraging tree planting," he said.

"Also, a tree will last a lot longer than a bench. We will always try and help people that want to pay their respects to a loved one at our club."

Golfer Daniel Chives said he plays regularly in Kent and has noticed the growing number of memorial seats.

"It's not a real problem, people understand the reasons behind them, but at times they can get in the way if someone's taking a particular shot," he said.

"Golf for me is a relaxing hobby, which it is for many people. It's the competitive people that are more likely to get annoyed if their ball ends up by a bench and they can't take their shot."

But Mr Chives said most players are respectful of the seats and in some cases knew the person the bench was commemorating.

The 29-year-old said: "You get to know other golfers when you play a lot and some of the seats are there for long-standing members who many people knew," he added.

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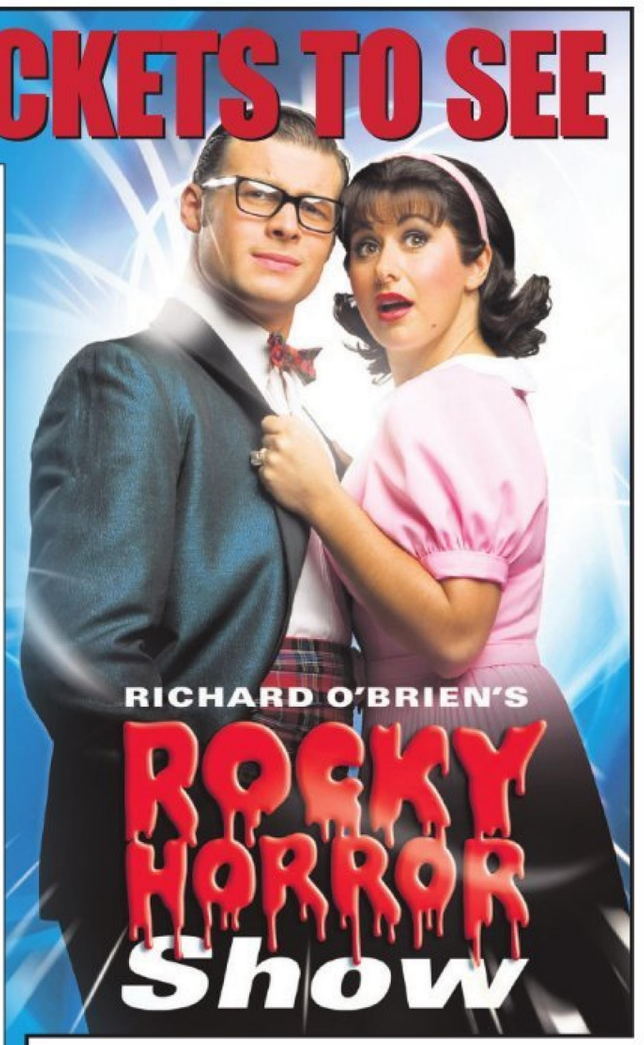


RICHARD O'Brien's outrageous classic play The Rocky Horror Show is thrusting its way to The Orchard in Dartford this month, and we're giving our readers the chance to see this fantastic musical.

Featuring the timeless classics Sweet Transvestite, Damit Janet and The Time Warp, this irresistible riot has seduced audiences all over the world for more than 30 years, so whether you're a die-hard fan or a Rocky virgin this is your chance to brush up on those pelvic thrusts, squeeze into that corset and slip back into those killer stilettos.

Fancy dress is greatly encouraged, but not compulsory, for enjoying the craziest party you'll ever go to!

We have five pairs of tickets to give away for the performance on Wednesday, January 27, at 8pm.

Simply send your answer to the question below, along with your name, address, email and contact number to marketing@orchardtheatre.co.uk by Thursday, January 21, 2010, or send your entry on a postcard along with your email address (if applicable), name, address, and daytime telephone number to Rocky Horror Show Competition, Orchard Theatre, Home Gardens, Dartford, Kent DA1 1ED.

Closing date is January 21, 2010.

No purchase necessary. For our full terms and conditions please www.kentnews.co.uk, or for a posted copy of the T&Cs call 01303 817073.

If you do not wish to receive any literature please write 'no literature' on your entry.

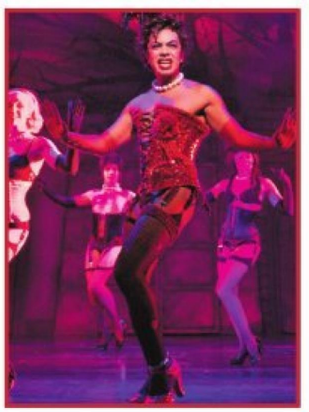
Question: Complete the lyrics Let's Do The Time Warp…

a) Please b) Now c) Again

(Please note that tickets cannot be transferred to any other time, date or performance.)

Rocky Horror Show comes to The Orchard from Monday to Saturday, January 25-30, 2010. Tickets are from £18 and concessions are available.

To book please call the ticket office on 01322 220000 or visit www.orchardtheatre.co.uk.



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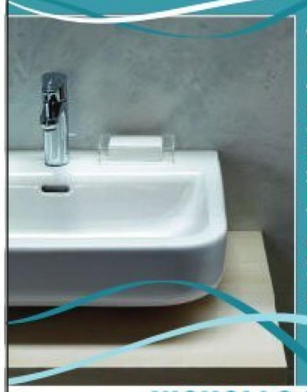

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Minor Injuries Unit

When and Why?
Use your local minor injuries unit or walk-in centre if you need medical treatment or advice which does not need a visit to A&E or a medical appointment. For details of your local minor injuries unit or walk-in centre call **0845 46 47** or visit **www.nhsdirect.co.uk**

GP

When and Why?
Make an appointment with your local GP surgery when you have an illness or injury that will not go away this winter. For details of your nearest GP surgery call **0845 46 47** or visit **www.nhsdirect.co.uk**

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When and Why?
Visit your local pharmacy when you are suffering from a common winter health problem which does not require being seen by a nurse or doctor. For details of your nearest pharmacy call **0845 46 47** or visit **www.nhsdirect.co.uk**

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Flight of mercy

Amid the snow clouds came help from the skies last week as KOS Media – publisher of this newspaper – took to a helicopter to help deliver vital supplies to the elderly. JULIE MADDOCKS climbed onboard and brought some warmth as the big freeze took hold. She tells her story of a remarkable mission as the county shivered

Pictures: PAUL JERREAT

TAKE-OFF: Julie Maddocks with AV8 pilot Daniel Gilson before and during the flight to deliver vital supplies to the elderly cut off by the snow

THE work of Age Concern is important all-year round, but perhaps even more so when inclement weather hits, as the staff and volunteers know only too well.

The group serving the Isle of Sheppey discovered just how difficult their normal tasks became in the recent heavy snow.

As their vans struggled in the sub zero temperatures and as the snow continued to fall on the island, visiting the elderly and delivering 'meals on wheels' became almost impossible.

And with many elderly residents dependent on the service for their meals, it was more vital than ever – as the temperatures continued to plunge – they got their meals and some basic supplies.

They had received some help, but were tirelessly fighting the elements and the roads attempting to maintain normal service.

With this in mind, KOS Media decided to help out. I contacted the charity and asked them if there was anything we could do.

They explained that simply reaching some people was proving a huge challenge.

Before we knew it, generous helicopter charter firm AV8, based in Rochester, had offered the use of a chopper.

Our mission was simple – to take essential supplies to the area struggling under the snow, and allow the Age Concern teams there to distribute the food and drink to those most in need.

The local supermarket shelves may have been empty of the much needed bread and milk, but I did find all I needed at a local garage - Parkfoot Service Station, West Malling – where they not only helped me load my car, but also offered staff discount to pay for the goods.

Flight plan

It was a refreshing experience to see everyone pulling together at times of such difficulty.

The team at AV8 soon put the flight plan in place and after gaining permission from Abbotts Pharmaceuticals at Queenborough, we headed for the helicopter and loaded the supplies on board.

As we took off, the view across Bluebell Hill and the Medway towns made it clear just how heavy the snow had fallen, and why so many motorists had been struggling in the conditions.

Our flight had been planned in between the wintery showers, and although it would have been nice to enjoy the winter wonderland on display below us, with more snow forecast, time was something we didn't want to waste.

We had arranged to meet Sheppey Age Concern manager, Elaine O'Brian and her team midway between their lunchtime deliveries in the area, and as we touched down at exactly 11.30am their van arrived on site.

We swiftly transferred what we had over to them, as Elaine told us how they had been struggling to get around the area.

"We were lucky to receive the offer of help from one local," she said, "he was kind enough to help us deliver meals in his 4x4 vehicle last week. But I think he helps everyone else too, so our volunteer driver John has been trying to get us round as much as we can.

"It's not just the roads which have caused the problem," she continued, "but it's the pavements too. So many people have found it just too dangerous to go out, and have run out of bread and milk, so this will be great."

As she told us just how hard their jobs had become in the past week, it certainly made me feel what we had done was very little. But thanks to the support of those who helped us to help others, it certainly restored my faith in human nature.

SUPPLIES: Julie Maddocks delivers the goods to Age Concern

AGE Concern extended a special thank you to Julie, AV8 and everyone else involved, this week.

A spokesman told this newspaper: "We would like to extend our thanks to Julie who went over and above to help a vulnerable community. Her actions have made a real difference."

To see this clip search 'snow' @yourkenttv.co.uk

Catch Julie's mercy mission to deliver supplies on our free broadband website

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www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk

Eastern and Coastal Kent

KENT ON SUNDAY

COMMENT

No passing phase

CONGRATULATIONS are in order yet again for Kent pupils and teachers who have contributed to improved GCSE results for the eighth year running.

Despite the stigma attached to some schools deemed 'failing' by the Government's National Challenge scheme, our youngsters continue to knuckle down and earn the grades we all knew they were capable of.

Kent often receives criticism for its school selection policy, but education chiefs must be doing something right if the county continues to receive GCSE pass rates that are above the UK average.

Yet despite the good news, surely it is time some other method other than exam results is used to determine how effective a school is in educating its pupils.

Some children will never be good at answering exam questions, just like others will never make good public speakers or be able to work with their hands.

It doesn't make them stupid and it doesn't make them failures. All it means is that everyone is different, and the sooner the Government realises it the better.

Battling txt speak

ACCORDING to new research, the rise of internet chat rooms and text messaging is making some teenagers more inarticulate than ever before.

Jean Gross has been appointed England's first-ever Communications Champion as a result, amid fears some youngsters will have trouble getting a job when they leave school.

All we can say is good luck 2 U Jean, ur gonna need it.

OPINION: Building a better education

PETER READ looks at the academy, the new buzzword in schooling

OUR secondary schools have suffered from a historically low level of investment into school buildings.

However, in recent years there has been a transformation of many premises to produce school buildings of which we can be proud, a tribute to the investment policies of Kent and Medway councils.

With programmes such as Private Finance Investment (six schools) and Building Schools for the Future (10 schools under way), the pace of redevelopment is increasing in line with the target of replacing all Kent secondary schools in the next 12 years.

These two initiatives rely heavily on private finance, which needs to make a profit, and so they face uncertain financial futures in terms of running costs. What happens at the end of the borrowing term? What about the current difficult financial climate?

However, as each new school flourishes, alongside it there is too often a school that is not so fortunate, often which has worked hard to achieve high standards, that then suffers by comparison. It is an unfair world, where many children benefit while others are at good schools that go into decline.

Academies are in a different programme and are the flavour of the day, bringing much-needed funds from government to build plush new premises, often on fresh sites. They also need to attract sponsors who often put up a small proportion of the total costs, and are independent of the local authority. Church and university sponsors no longer need to invest funds.

Increasingly local authorities are also minority sponsors. Between them, University of Kent at Canterbury, Christchurch University Canterbury, and the University of Creative Arts are minority sponsors of most local academies.

City academies were originally designed to replace failing schools in socially deprived urban areas, but the concept is changing fast and now even some prestigious independent schools, fallen on hard times, are becoming academies in other parts of the country. Already the 17 open and planned academies make up one in seven of all Kent and Medway schools. They do not need to follow the national curriculum, and all students at new academies start off with free uniforms.

So far there is no convincing evidence that they raise standards, although many often do well, some by attracting more able pupils. Others (not in Kent) have been spectacular failures.

I consider that Kent has generally used the concept well, attracting investment into the county and maintaining a level of influence lacking in some academies elsewhere. However, local authorities are required to have less than 20 per cent of the voting power on the board of governance of an academy. Parents are not represented on all governing bodies, but can have an influence through parent councils.

Department of Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) statistics for permanent exclusions 2007-08 show the rate is twice as high for academies as in council-maintained schools. This confirms that one reason for academy 'success' may be their capacity to move 'problem children' out into other neighbouring schools – which suffer as a consequence.

I am starting to receive reports underlining one of the main drawbacks of city academies – lack of accountability. Parents unhappy with provision are finding it impossible to get satisfaction and the local authority does not have responsibility for the internal running of academies.

The Local Government Ombudsman has no role, as they do not come under the aegis of local authorities. The correct route is via the DFCS. As yet I have no experience of these, but have followed other education complaints through to the Government and have found this to be generally a frustrating, drawn out and negative experience.

Parents who send their children to academies need to understand the risks, although for most it may well be the best option available and a very positive experience.

• Peter Read is an independent education adviser working in Kent. You can contact him at www.kentadvice.co.uk, where you can also read his summaries for all open and planned Kent and Medway academies.

Snow need to moan

For goodness sake, someone please tell Fred Dinage to stop complaining about the snow. The miserable old so and so. Think of all the kids that are enjoying it.

I know it's hard for some people but the way Fred goes on is what makes Britain what it is.

We only get this lovely weather about once every 20 years so tell him to stop moaning and enjoy it.

Trevor and Janice,
By email

Tory council tax rises

Yet again the Conservative leader of Kent County Council has sought to blame a threatened last-minute council tax rise on Government (Kent on Sunday, January 10) for not paying everything he demands for asylum seekers.

Yet again the head of the UK Border Agency says the agency's made a fair offer to Kent but, if you can show where you get your latest figures from, please get in touch.

What Kent County Council's Conservatives seem less keen to talk about is the recent decision of one of the failed Icelandic banks (Glitnir) not to treat British local councils as preferential creditors.

KCC had £15 million invested in Glitnir when it went under.

The decision by Glitnir's winding up board will see only 31 per cent of our money being returned, rather than the 100 per cent expected for preferential creditors.

That's a loss to the Kent council tax payer of over £10 million.

Of course UK councils are challenging Glitnir's decision in the Icelandic courts.

But then, others are challenging the decision of the other Icelandic bank's board (Landsbanki) to treat British local government as preferred creditors.

We may lose half the Landsbanki money. Another £8 million.

One day we may find out how much the County Council lost in Iceland, but that day looks further away than ever. In the meantime KCC Conservatives will blame everybody but themselves for their council tax demands.

Mike Eddy,
Labour shadow cabinet member for finance and performance, Dover District Council

Green ideas are rose tinted

I note the article by Dr Hazel Dawe (Opinion, January 10).

She gives the typical opinion of 'Greens and the PC brigade'.

How she can state that just one per cent of scientists are climate change sceptics, I do not know.

She, and those like her, wish a return to the 17th and 18th centuries, with people 'tilling the soil' and with windmills providing power.

Perhaps she also looks forward to the population going to bed early after sitting in their homes lit by candle light. She should perhaps remove her rose-tinted specs.

The fact is that we live in the 21st century when modern power supply has developed greatly.

Nuclear power is clean and very efficient.

I for one do not want the UK covered in windmills that only work when it is windy. I live on Romney Marsh and just do not find the wind farm at all attractive.

We are already told that we must pay for the windmill farms through our energy bills. I suspect the bills will not reduce once the monsters have been paid for and installed though.

The percentage of sceptics in the scientific and engineering community is far higher than the one per cent dreamed up by Dr Dawe, I would not be surprised if it was nearer 50 per cent.

Finally, as a chartered engineer, I am quite sure that breakdowns of these windmill monsters will be commonplace.

Terry Mullard CEng
Dymchurch

Floating in success

On behalf of Canterbury Lions Club and the Rotary Club of Canterbury Sunrise, we would like to express our appreciation to the residents of Canterbury and surrounding areas, for giving so generously to our Christmas Float collections.

In total, we collected over £4,300 during our 13 evenings of street collections and four daytime sessions at local supermarkets. The money raised will help support a variety of local charitable causes.

This year the float had benefited from a complete refurbishment and makeover undertaken by a few individuals from each club and we know from many comments that the new design was highly regarded.

Also the advance leaflet drop ensured that children, and adults as well, were on the lookout for Santa as he toured the area.

We know that many look forward to seeing Santa and the float as it seems to mark the start of Christmas, and we look forward to arranging his next tour in December, 2010.

John Burton
President, Canterbury Lions Club
Rob Ward
President, Rotary Club of Canterbury Sunrise

Premium disappointment

This morning the energy minister David Kidney MP posted the following tweet: 'At my desk preparing for scrutiny of the Energy Bill – Labour's delivery of four clean coal projects and money off poorer people's fuel bills'.

I find it quite incredible that the Government is still refusing to use the bill to outlaw premiums for prepay customers.

Figures from OFGEM show that prepayment meter customers are charged on average £189 a year more for their energy than customers with standard meters.

Statistics from National Energy Action also show that those using prepayment meters are generally on lower than average incomes. Almost a quarter have an annual income of less than £10,000.

As expected, prepayment meters are more likely to be used by lone parents, those in receipt of benefits, those with no bank account and those with payment difficulties. But there are also people who use them simply to help juggle the family finances.

This is a scourge penalising the poor. It is scandalous that the energy companies can get away with charging the poorest such high rates for something that's a necessity and should be trying to help, not push people further into debt.

Cllr Julie Rook
Dover Council

Letters continued on page 32

YOUR LETTERS

KOS Media welcomes your comments and letters for publication. Please send correspondence to: Letters to the Editor, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR. Alternatively fax them to: 01303 817002, or email them to editorial@kosmedia.co.uk. Please include your name and address, although these will be withheld in exceptional circumstances. Please also include a daytime telephone number for verification (this will not be published). We reserve the right to edit letters.

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BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS

Including family announcements In partnership with the Kent registration service

To register Births, Marriages and Deaths contact the Kent registration service on 0845 824 7400
For advertising announcement enquiries telephone Kent on Sunday on 01303 817150

BIRTHS

BODEN
Tyler born 26th December 2009 weighing 6lbs 13ozs. Son to Neil Boden and Samantha Bradshaw.

CADWALLADER-ALLEN
Maria and Rikki celebrate the birth of their son Jordan Lee Cadwallader-Allen on 22nd December 2009.

CAMPBELL
Connie Boyce and Jamie Campbell of Cliftonville Margate celebrate the birth of their son Taylor Campbell on 26th December 2009.

DAVIES
James Lee born on 26th December 2009, weighing 6lb 12oz. Son to Christopher Davies and Laura Boot in Ashford.

DEMBREY
Tiahna Rose born on 19th December 2009, weighing 7lbs 13oz. Daughter to Matthew Dembrey and Claire Budd.

FITTER
Wayne and Sarah welcome their beautiful baby daughter, Poppy Eva Fitter to the world. Born on 4th January 2010 at 10:10pm weighing 7lbs 15oz.

GAMBLE
Joe Thomas born on 2nd January 2010, weighing 9lb 5oz. Son to Neil and Claire Gamble in Maidstone.

GOLDSMITH
Joshua Riley born on 10th December 2009, weighing 6lbs 9oz. Son to Toby and Karen in Maidstone.

HARGROVE
Claire and William Hargrove celebrate the birth of their first child Matthew Leonard on 25th December 2009, a much treasured Grandson for Irene, Sue and Rodney.

HURD
Jason and Kirsty of Dover celebrate the birth of their son Finlay Robin on 29th December 2009.

LAWRENCE
Katie Evie born on 31st December 2009, weighing 8lbs 9oz. Daughter to Simon and Paula Lawrence.

LEE
Lace and Simon celebrate the birth of their daughter Violet Elsie Lee on 9th December 2009.

LOVETT
Connie, born on 5th January 2010 weighing 8lb 10oz daughter to Nicola Roberts and Andy Lovett, and sister for Edie from Dymchurch.

MARVIN COLE
Anneliese Hay and Richard Cole would like to announce the birth of their beautiful son and brother to Bethanie.

PALMER
Russell and Julie of Barming celebrate the birth of their daughter Neave Julie Palmer, born on 30th December 2009.

PARSONS
Chris and Jo are delighted to announce the birth of their son Max Oscar born on 17th December 2009 at Darent Valley Hospital weighing 8lb 11oz. A baby brother for Oliver xx.

PASCALL
Julie and James Pascall of Dover celebrate the birth of their daughter "Jessica Holly Pascall" on 23rd December 2009.

PRIOR
Rosie Sarah Prior, born 26th December 2009 to parents Laura and Doug weighing 7lbs 2ozs.

SHEPHERD
Joseph Terry born 25th December 2009 weighing 8lbs 2oz. Precious son to Terry and Emily. Brother to Ashley.

DEATHS

ALLICK
June Allick loving mother and wife passed away peacefully on 9th January 2010. Funeral service to be held at Vinters Park Crematorium at 12.30 on 29th January. Family flowers only but donations may be made to Breast Cancer Care.

ANDERSON
Patricia, wife of Mick, mother of Peter and Michelle, passed away peacefully on 7th January 2010 at The Heart of Kent Hospice after a long illness.

ANDERSON
Jean Anderson of Ramsgate passed away on 5th January 2010, beloved mother of Tony, Dierdre, Kevin, Maureen and Clare. She will be sadly missed by family and friends. Any enquiries to H R Palmer of Ramsgate.

BECKETT
It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Paul Beckett on 5th January 2010. Beloved husband of Pamela and father of Ryan and Ben. All enquiries and donations to The Pilgrims Hospice via Hogben and Partis of Faversham .

BROWN
Doris Brown of West Hougham passed away on 4th January 2010. Funeral at Barham on Wednesday 20th January at 2:40pm. Enquiries to Farriers Funeral Directors of Dover.

COLLINS
Owen Collins formerly of Staplehurst. Dearly beloved husband of the late Irene and much loved father of Graham, Carole and Peter. Passed away 7th January 2010 Aged 84 years. One of lifes true gentlemen. Will be sadly missed by all whose lives he touched. Funeral Service at All Saints Church Staplehurst Friday 29th January 2010 at 2.00pm. Enquiries and charity donations to - Doves Funerals, Maxted House, High Street Staplehurst TN12 0AH Tel 01580 892125.

MEEHAN
Terry Meehan, former landlord of the Kent Tavern, Herne Bay and the Crown and Sceptre, Acol died peacefully on Wednesday, 6 January. Funeral to be held on Monday, 18 January at 11am at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Catholic Church Herne Bay. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to Macular Disease Society c/o A Welch and Sons, 94 Station Road, Herne Bay, Kent.

WELCH
In loving memory of Keith Anthony Welch aged 68 years. Died peacefully in Kent and Canterbury Hospital surrounded by his wife Celia, son Charles and daughter Lorraine. Funeral Service at St Thomas Church Canterbury at noon on 26th January followed by cremation at Barham. Friends and family are welcomed to join the Family to celebrate Keiths life at the Chaucer Hotel. Celia and her family would like to thank the staff at the CDU, Mount Ward, and Elliot House Herne Bay for their kindness and care. All enquiries to Welch and Son Burgate Canterbury.

Letters continued from page 31

We need real change

Brokenhagen – this is how Friends of The Earth Have described last month's failed Climate Change Summit. Copenhagen was the time and place for a strong climate change treaty agreement, instead all we got was a worthless vote to "note" a political agrrement.

This year the world's richest countries especially the US and China need to show real leadership and turn this weak aggrement into a legally binding treaty. At Copenhagen rich countries showed low ambition and lower tactics, big developing countries have put forward bold and fair proposals which have been sidelined by the rich countries.

The weak agreement will need to be radically altered to set the world on a pathway to avoid runaway climate change. This year's summits in Germany and Mexico are the places where short term interests must be set aside and a legally-binding treaty agreed.

Stuart Cox,
Group Co-ordinator, East Kent FOE

They don't listen to us

I may have been mistaken but I believe David Cameron promised to repeal the European human rights laws if the Conservatives came into power so that we could get rid of all the foreign criminals swamping our country

That is what I believed and I am pretty sure I heard him say that, amongst other things he has backtracked on. Now, according to a reliable source, he is going to do no such thing.

They are not going to renounce the European Convention on Human Rights or the European Court, so we will still be stuck with the mess we have now.

It would be wonderful if we could come up with an honest party to vote for, as none of the main three is willing to listen to what the people want. What a pathetic crowd they all are in ignoring 60 million people with the excuse that they know best. You only have to look at the state of the country to see if that is true.

If Cameron was honest and listened to what the people want, his rating would be through the roof but, just like Brown, he doesn't have the guts. I can't see an election solving the problems we have so I will be giving it a miss or voting for UKIP.

RE Tucker
Sheerness

It's a new religion

Thanks goodness for all the experts on these page, in the new religion of global warming.

They can even forecast the rise in sea levels to the nearest inch, which is surprising. Because if you place a number of ice cubes in a tumbler, then fill it virtually to the brim, you'll find when the ice cubes have melted, the level will be the same as ice is expanded water.

We can all be experts now, if the weather's wetter, dryer, colder, or warmer than usual, this all signifies global warming.

But never mind, we have a benevolent government that will use increasing green taxes to repair the damage done by the destruction of the rainforests and the pollution by countries like China and India to produce our cheap goods. All we have to do is reduce use of plastic bags, turn off our TV and not use cars.

Obviously the world population climbing to seven billion has nothing to do with our planet's inability to keep up and the fact the whole of the solar system is heating up must be our fault and should be taxable.

Phil Granger
West Malling

MP's given up on us

South Thanet's sitting Labour MP must have thrown in the towel. Only an MP resigned to departure would fail to seek to defend Thanet's maritime safety cover.

Of course my colleagues Laura Sandys and Julian Brazier are right to raise the issue of the location of the fixed-wing reconnaisance aircraft – just as Jonathan Aitken and I sought to resist the transfer of the search and rescue helicopters from Manston to RAF Wattisham. At that time it was another chief coastguard who felt the relocation of a service would not diminish safety at sea.

To date, no lives have been lost as a result of the transfer, but over the Christmas period a yacht in trouble was serviced, in addition to the Margate lifeboat, by an aircraft from Belgium rather than one from Britain. I still fear that a day may come when 'just in time' proves to be 'just too late'.

The Straits of Dover are the busiest sealane in the world. Air cover needs to be enhanced, not diminished and I share the view expressed by Laura Sandys and by Julian Brazier to the effect that the removal of the fixed-wing aircraft from Manston to Coventry represents a potential diminution of the facility.

South Thanet's Labour MP additionally accuses Laura Sandys of "confusion" and electioneering over transport policies. This, of course, is the same MP who, prior to the 2002 general election, sought to grab a headline by announcing that a fast rail service, provided by a company called Netrail, would be running between Ramsgate and London, with his assistance, by 2007. We need take no lessons from an operator of ghost trains.

Roger Gale, MP
North Thanet

Don't waste their lives

The prospect of a happy New Year seems more elusive than ever for those whose lives and futures have been blighted by rising youth unemployment.

More than 43,000 18 to 24-year-olds were claiming benefits across the South East at the end of last year at a cost of more than £2.2 million a week. This figure has risen by 60 per cent in just a year, as younger and less experienced members of our workforce are hit.

Unsurprisingly, those out of work are significantly less happy with their health, friendships and family life. Our alarming new report, The Prince's Trust YouGov Youth Index, shows unemployed young people are twice as likely to feel down or depressed and many feel ashamed, isolated and unloved.

If trends follow those of previous recessions, we fear these youngsters will become members of a lost generation and face a continued lack of confidence and low self-esteem. The long term regional cost of failing to give young people a helping hand at a time when many of them need it most must be counted in wasted human potential as well as in monetary terms.

It is organisations like The Prince's Trust, working with local councils and businesses, that are key to helping young people into jobs. Together, we can build on and surpass last year's achievements of changing 3,000 young lives across the region.

Rosemary Watt-Wyness, South East Regional Director, The Prince's Trust

Charity needs support

I am asking your readers to urgently visit their local Age Concern and Help the Aged charity shops and give generously to stop them losing crucial funds because of the recent cold snap.

The charity relies on generous donations from the public to stock their shops and fund their vital work, but due to bad weather charity collection vans have been unable to pick up donations. In addition, shops have had to shut and the ones that do open have seen much reduced business and a decrease in people bringing in goods.

Age Concern and Help the Aged estimates that over the last two weeks the charity has lost around £500,000 and with the weather worsening across much of the country that number could get higher.

The money raised from shops is used to improve the lives of older people in many ways, from running lunch clubs and offering benefits advice to lobbying Government.

Fiona Phillips
Journalist, and Age Concern and Help the Aged Ambassador

Volunteering their help

The snow affecting the country has had a massive impact.

Bad weather has hit everywhere from Cornwall to the north of Scotland, placing huge demands on the emergency services.

We should all be incredibly proud of the way these vital services have continued to operate, getting help to those most in need in the face of extreme and dangerous conditions.

The British Red Cross and other voluntary organisations have also had a role to play in ensuring these lifelines have continued.

With emergency services stretched right across Britain, our volunteers, equipped with four-wheel-drive Land Rovers, have come into their own.

Working tirelessly to support the emergency services and ensure help gets through to those in need, their courage and dedication should be saluted.

Once again they have shown – as they have time and again – that dedicated, trained volunteers can play a vital role in responding to emergencies.

In the UK, the Red Cross has tens of thousands of volunteers skilled in fields as diverse as first aid, emotional support and the co-ordination of emergency support; skills which make people and their communities more resilient against the effects of harsh weather.

Particularly in light of current pressures on public spending, we urge that this government, and future governments, commit themselves to continuing to harness and support voluntary organisations to ensure the help we provide can continue.

Sir Nick Young
Chief Executive
British Red Cross

Healthy tips for lunches

Many readers may have been shocked at the news that only one per cent of primary schoolchildren's packed lunches meet the nutritional standards set for school meals in England.

But there is no reason why crisps, sweets and sugary drinks should dominate over healthier fruit and veg – especially with help from one of the UK's leading health charities, the Vegetarian & Vegan Foundation (VVF).

At www.veggiekids.org.uk there are loads of great ideas, practical tips and information about how to make a lunchbox healthy and tasty – showing it's easy to get the balance right by including a wide range of plant-based foods. Try falafel in baby pitta pockets, hummus dip with vegetable sticks, and unsalted nuts and seeds for a nutritional boost in the middle of the day that will help your child concentrate and work hard at school.

For details about how to provide your child with a balanced and nutritious lunchbox, visit the website, email info@vegetarian.org.uk, write to VVF at Top Suite, 8 York Court, Wilder Street, Bristol BS2 8QH, or call 0117 970 5190 (Monday-Friday, 9am-6pm).

Helen Rossiter
Vegetarian & Vegan Foundation Campaigns

MONEY MATTERS

New dawn for the economy

Inside your pull-out supplement

- Be prepared for VAT changes
- Focus on mergers and acquisitions
- Claim your share of the wealth
- Cut back on your household spending
- Consider your children's future
- Save money with a new car
- Taxing issues for drivers
- Simple steps put you on the greener road
- Shattering myths could save you pounds
- Does scrappage have a future?

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VAT return dread? Click on to a new system

VAT-registered businesses in Kent are being urged to get ready for major changes to VAT return filing and payment coming in April.

HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC) has sent a leaflet to all 1.9 millionVAT-registered businesses to alert them to the fact that, from April 1, 2010, those with an annual turnover of £100,000 or more, excluding VAT, will have to file their VAT returns online and pay their VAT electronically.

Under the changes, businesses registering for VAT on or after April 1 will also have to file their return online and pay electronically, whatever their turnover.

Every year, around 5,200 businesses register for VAT in Kent.

The average number of businesses registering for VAT each year by area is:

- **Medway 619**
- **Ashford 481**
- **Canterbury 397**
- **Dartford 299**
- **Dover 247**
- **Gravesham 258**
- **Maidstone 545**
- **Sevenoaks 508**
- **Shepway 286**
- **Swale 377**
- **Thanet 313**
- **Tonbridge and Malling 401**
- **Tunbridge Wells 454**

HMRC told all VAT-registered businesses in the county to take notice of the changes, as well as local firms who are planning to register for VAT in the coming months.

To file a VAT return online, businesses new to HMRC's online services need to register for the VAT Online service by visiting www.online.hmrc.gov.uk, clicking 'register' under the 'new user' section and then following the instructions.

Current HMRC online service users can add VAT Online to their portfolio in the 'Services you can add' section of 'Your HMRC services'.

HMRC's Stephen Banyard said: "Filing your VAT return online has a number of benefits: it's secure, convenient, does arithmetical checks and calculations for you, and provides you with an immediate online acknowledgement that your online return has been safely received by us.

"So, if your turnover is £100,000 or more, and you're not already filing your VAT return online, sign-up now for VAT online services – that way, you'll avoid a last-minute rush, and be able to enjoy the benefits of online filing sooner rather than later."

HMRC will also be sending formal letters in February to all existing businesses affected by the new online filing and electronic payment requirements, confirming that in future they must file online and pay electronically.

And, from April 1, a letter explaining the requirement to file online will be included in all registration packs issued to newly registering VAT businesses.

Both letters will be accompanied by a guide on registering for VAT Online.

Further help and advice, including an online demonstrator and a step-by-step guide to filing online, is available on HMRC's website at www.hmrc.gov.uk/vat, or by calling its VAT helpline on 0845 010 9000 between 8am and 8pm, Monday to Friday.

GO ONLINE: A new simpler system to file your tax return has been set up by HMRC online

Essential guide to where you can save

- KOS Media is offering a pair of classic Queen Anne style nesting footstools, £29.99
- Sink Ports kitchens and bathrooms in Maidstone is offering 10 per cent off bathrooms
- FG Barnes Motors in Maidstone is offering £39.99 for MOTs
- KOS Media is offering a saving of £20 on a versatile Powertec Folding Wheeled Chair
- Northgate Alfa Motors in Canterbury is offering air conditioning servicing for £79.95 + VAT
- Robins and Day Motors in Maidstone is offering MOTs from £29.99 and a service and MOT from £119.99
- KOS Media is offering an Inovalley USB Turntable for only £99.99
- Baileys Nissan Motors in Canterbury is offering 15 per cent off MOTs
- Village Hotel in Maidstone is offering a room on a Friday evening before March 31, 2010, for £39 if you book now
- Caffyns Tunbridge Wells Motors in Tunbridge Wells is offering £250 off a used vehicle when you present this voucher
- KOS Media is offering a football history book for £49.99
- Old Sawmills furniture store in Ashford is offering 20 per cent off

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TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLY TO ALL OFFERS

Mergers and acquisitions:

ISSUES FOR BUYERS

BUYING a business involves many risks. If a buyer is not careful, he may end up paying more than just the agreed purchase price. However, with careful planning and proper advice, these risks can be reduced.

The most important factor is to know what you are buying. This may seem an obvious point, but if you are buying shares in a company, you are buying all assets and liabilities of that company, whether known or unknown, actual or contingent.

Due diligence is vital, therefore. This will involve scrutinising the target's financial and tax records, cash-flows and budgets, business and employment contracts, properties and other assets.

The price will probably be agreed with the seller before due diligence takes place, but a buyer must not be afraid to renegotiate if due diligence throws up issues or liabilities which were not expected.

The price payable for the business can be structured in many ways. It is rare nowadays for a buyer and seller to agree a fixed price, all of which is payable on the date of the acquisition. The price can be payable in instalments and occasionally the value of the instalments are calculated by reference to the profits or turnover of the business during the intervening period (known as an earn-out). It is also quite common for the price to be adjusted by reference to accounts of the business which are prepared as at the date of the acquisition, so the buyer is paying for the assets and liabilities on the balance sheet at that date.

If the target business is a company, the buyer may choose to buy the shares or the assets from the company. Buying shares is generally more risky for a buyer. It means buying the company 'lock, stock and barrel' and inheriting any skeletons in the company's cupboard. It is actually a much simpler structure and likely to be favoured by sellers. Buying assets may be more tax-efficient for the buyer and it allows the buyer to cherry-pick the specific assets it wants, but it will involve the complexities of transferring individual assets and having to renew or assign contracts with customers and suppliers.

The principle method for a buyer to protect itself against unknown liabilities post-acquisition is to obtain warranties from the seller.

Warranties are statements of fact relating to the business which are relied on by the buyer as being true. If a warranty subsequently turns out to be untrue, the buyer will be able to claim damages for breach of warranty. The warranties often take up a significant proportion of the purchase contract and a lot of time is often spent negotiating their terms and application.

Compensation

The warranties serve two purposes: Firstly, they force the seller to disclose any information it knows about a warranty which is untrue, so the buyer has a full picture of what it is buying. Secondly, the warranties serve as a price adjustment mechanism by enabling the buyer to claim compensation for damages, losses or liabilities arising from a warranty being untrue, effectively reducing the price of the business.

Employees are often key to a business, but sometimes a buyer will not want or need all of the seller's employees. However, a buyer will inherit responsibility for all of the seller's employees, so careful consideration is necessary before any redundancy decisions are made, either by the buyer or the seller.

The acquisition of a business should be a stepping stone for greater success and profits for a buyer. Buyers must ensure that the terms of the acquisition fully protect them against it being an expensive mistake.

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what you will need to know...

DONE DEAL: Make sure you are aware of the risks of buying and selling a business before a deal goes ahead

ISSUES FOR SELLERS

A BUSINESS owner is likely to have shed blood, sweat and tears in making their business as successful as possible. Unless it is a family business and the next generation is ready to pick up the reins, these efforts will hopefully culminate in selling the business or, for the more ambitious, floating it on a stock exchange.

In light of this almost inevitable endgame, it is surprising how few business owners are prepared for the issues and procedures which will be relevant when the time for exit arrives. Being underprepared may result in receiving less than full value for the business.

Business owners must plan for their exit well in advance. Some of the most important things to ensure are also the most obvious, but that does not always mean they are observed.

The business structure must be established in a way which makes the sale as straightforward as possible. For example, if the business is operated through a company, are there any divisions, properties or assets which need to be extracted from the company before a sale?

All corporate and commercial documents relating to the business must be complete and up to date. They will be scrutinised during a buyer's due diligence, so do not give the buyer any excuse to delay or renegotiate the terms of the sale.

Key employees of the business should be signed up to employment contracts which comply with current employment legislation and contain enforceable restrictive covenants. The employees may be a valuable ingredient in the business, so a buyer will want to be satisfied that they are tied, as well as they can be, to the business.

If the business relies on unique intellectual property rights, it is imperative to ensure that these rights are protected as much as possible, whether by way of patent, trade mark, registered design rights, copyright or even simple confidentiality provisions.

Careful tax planning will also be key. The sale of shares in a company will almost certainly result in a lower tax bill for shareholders compared to the company selling its business and assets. This is because the company will have to pay corporation tax on its gains before the balance of proceeds can be distributed to its shareholders. However, there are exceptions to this rule, so always review the position early with a tax advisor.

When approaching potential buyers, it is important that sellers do not disclose too much information without first procuring signed confidentiality undertakings from the recipients of any information, to protect the business' trade secrets, customer and employee lists, pricing policies and other sensitive information.

Debenture

If a buyer makes an offer which includes an element of the purchase price being payable after the date of sale (possibly on an earn-out basis), the seller should consider what protection they require.

For example, should the buyer provide some form of security over the deferred element, such as a bank guarantee or debenture? If the deferred amount is dependant on future turnover or profits of the business, should there be provisions requiring the business to be conducted in the same manner as it was conducted before the sale? Careful consideration should also be given to the tax implications of any deferred element of the purchase price because, without careful planning, it is possible that tax will be payable on the full value of the purchase price, even if only some of it is paid on the date of sale.

There are many additional issues which need to be considered by sellers before they embark on the exit process, but hopefully this articles highlights a handful of the most significant factors.

• ***Nicholas Gabay, Partner Corporate & Commercial Department, Thomson Snell & Passmore.***

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- KOS Media is offering a Doro big button digital cordless telephone for only £39.99
- Crayford Dogs greyhound racing in Crayford is offering one free bottle of house wine with every restaurant booking (over 18s only)
- KOS Media is offering a saving of £100 on a pouffe bed – £99.99, RRP £199.99
- KOS Media is offering a Sabatier Three Piece Carving Knife Set for only £44.99
- KOS Media is offering an Armchair Booster cushion just £19.99 each plus £1.99 p&p
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TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLY TO ALL OFFERS

A share of the wealth

By **JEREMY GATES**

AS A new year begins, the search for shares and managed funds with 'hot' prospects will continue for small investors seeking to supplement their income.

In the Noughties, the game lost much of its sparkle. It's been a grim time for shares, especially those in banks once seen as solid and reliable, such as Lloyds TSB, Royal Bank of Scotland and HBOS. In 30 months of financial mayhem, income and capital gains from shares have plunged.

Well-regarded blue chips sank too, although many bounced back in the 54 per cent surge by London's FTSE 100 index since March.

The turmoil may not yet be over. Savers nearing retirement may be reluctant to touch equities at all, in case they sink to the lows that London prices hit in early 2009.

Despite the doom and gloom, however, small investors still hold £162 billion of shares, says Capita Registrars.

And with minimal returns from rival investments such as property and savings accounts, people trying to build a lump sum to allow earlier retirement will want some money in shares – or funds that hold mostly stocks.

Caution is the watchword with most pundits. Nobody knows how share prices will respond when the Government's policy of quantitative easing is eventually switched off.

Jonathan Jackson, head of equities at broker Killik & Co, has some FTSE 100 giants in his Top Ten for 2010, including GlaxoSmithKline, BG Group, Barclays, hedge-fund manager Man Group and FT owner Pearson. Most of these pay good dividends, around five per cent, even if capital growth may be limited.

Killik's high-yielding portfolio, with firms from the FTSE 100, Mid 250 and Small Cap, pays an average dividend of 5.7 per cent, with limited downside risk short of financial armageddon. He predicts the FTSE 100 will be at 5,850 by the end of 2010, about eight per cent up on the current level of 5,400.

VALUES: Investors need to choose between the safe bet and the big surge

Richard Hunter at discount broker Hargreaves Lansdown is slightly more hopeful. He sees the Bank of England base rate at 1.5 per cent by December, and the FTSE 100 around 6,000 in 12 months' time.

He plumps for BP (paying 5.5 per cent), Tesco, Home Retail (owner of Argos/Homebase) and one of the pharmaceutical giants, either GlaxoSmithKline or AstraZeneca.

Among tiddlers, he likes Davis Service Group, a £700 million company trading as Sunlight in the UK and Ireland to provide uniforms and workwear to a range of companies.

Globally, Hunter thinks 2010 could be the year when the economic might of China is widely recognised.

Tim Steer at the Artemis UK Growth Fund is backing firms focused on change – among them oil minnow Sterling Energy, listed on London's junior AIM market. He also likes Ricardo, focused on improving fuel efficiency for the automotive sector.

Peter Saacke, fund manager at Artemis Global Growth, thinks 2010 will deliver higher income from shares as dividends recover. His core holdings include Cobham, Northumbrian Water and Imperial Tobacco.

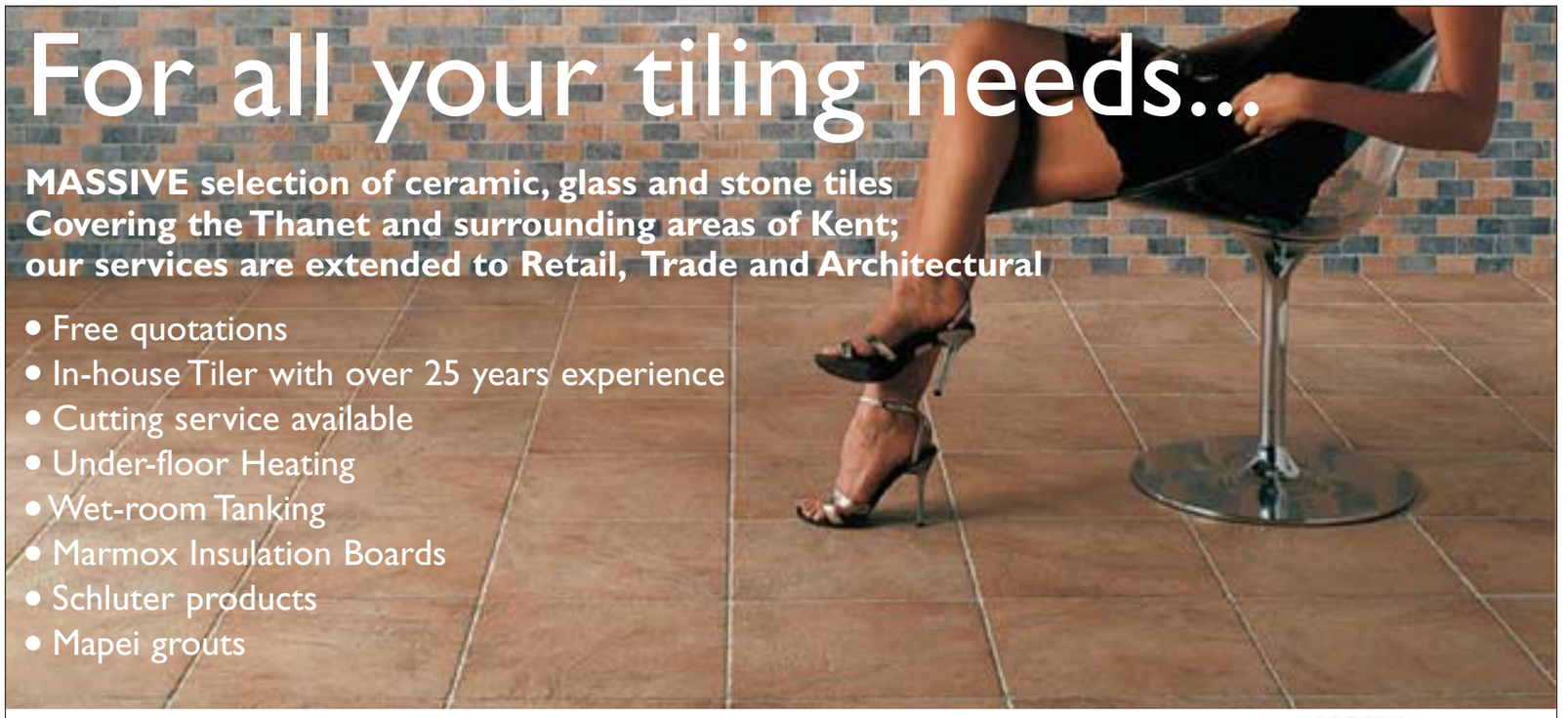
In an atmosphere of huge uncertainty, there are attractions in making monthly payments into managed funds: if share prices, investors buy more shares with the same subscription.

Choosing a specialist fund is also an easy way into global markets where most investors know little about specific shares.

Emerging markets boomed in 2009, notably the BRIC chain of Brazil, Russia, India and China. Neptune's Russia & Greater Russia, launched five years ago and heavily invested in oil, mining and gas companies, was a top-performing fund in 2009, soaring by 107 per cent. Alliance RCM BRIC Stars had another great year with an 80 per cent surge.

Can they keep it up? As the developing world continues to grow, demand for raw materials grows too – which might be a case for backing JP Morgan Natural Resources, up by more than 600 per cent in the past decade.

Virgin Money's Investor Intentions Index says emerging markets pushed UK shares to second place in advice given by financial advisors during 2009, but some doubt this surge can be maintained. In any case, investors bruised by 2007-09 might choose safe funds for 2010, rather than those set to soar.



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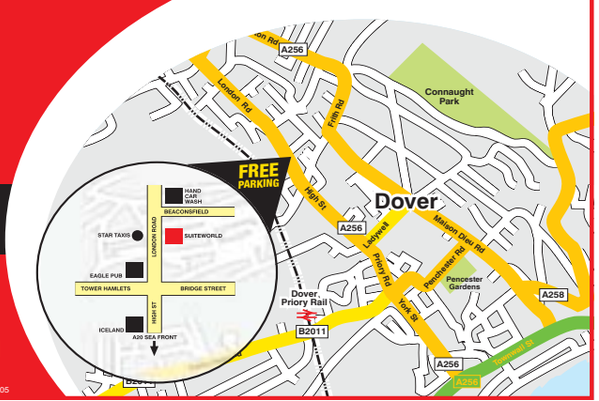

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Twelve ways

BY **JEREMY GATES**

MANY families who cut back on spending in 2009 on the assumption of recovery in 2010 may already be having a rethink, and are looking for fresh ways to prune the budget after warnings another 250,000 jobs could go in the new year.

Unemployment could hit three million by mid-summer, says the Chartered Institute of Personnel Development (CIPD) – partly because of rising inflation and the rise in VAT. Counting the pennies this year could be more important than last.

"People should review their finances on a regular basis and the turn of the year is a great trigger to do just that," said Clare Francis at moneysupermarket.com.

"For those suffering an extra financial hangover from the festive period, recovery will be quicker in 2010 if significant savings are made."

Ms Francis estimates an average household could save £4,000 a year, simply by getting the cheapest deals in those areas of spending few of us can avoid, like mortgage repayments and energy bills.

Here are a dozen spending checks which any household can make.

1. Mortgages – use low interest rates to overpay your mortgage, while 'interest only' borrowers who switch to capital repayment terms with their current lender may be surprised by savings in the long-term.

Moneysupermarket.com estimates that somebody paying an extra £50 per month on a capital repayment could save £40,000 over the 300-month life of a mortgage.

Andrew Hagger at Moneynet.co.uk points out that switching lenders might not be worth it for those with small loans, because of the hefty fees incurred. Above £70,000, though, it might be worth looking at cheaper fixes, including a Leeds BS five-year fix at 4.75 per cent or Mansfield BS's two-year fix at 3.59 per cent.

Don't linger on a Standard Variable Rate (SVR) loan because rates are likely to rise this year. Someone with a £150,000, two-year mortgage at Coventry BS fixed at 3.5 per cent would save £2,278 against the average SVR rate.

2. Get the cheapest loan – Nationwide BS thinks many consumers with debts spread across credit and store cards, overdrafts and loans could save by consolidating the debts into its new personal loans costing a typical 7.6 per cent APR on £7,500-14,999 for up to five years, the rate being fixed for the full term of the loan.

This undercuts the 7.9 per cent offer on £7,500-15,000 advances, with Nectar points, unveiled by Sainsbury's Finance.

3. Credit cards – if you can get your card debts accepted for a zero per cent balance transfer deal, there's a case for cutting the card up to ensure you don't make new purchases, possibly charged at 16 per cent.

4. Be a careful shopper – write down what you need before entering the supermarket, and you can easily save £20 per week, says Andrew Hagger at Moneynet.co.uk. That's worth £1,000 a year, which you can use to pay off debts elsewhere.

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5. Home and motor insurance – comparison site Gocompare.com reckons 21 million drivers are missing out on cheaper cover. Also, only 19 per cent of consumers switched their home insurer in the last year.

Gocompare.com says its customers could save an average £211 by comparing policies from more than 120 insurers and brokers.

A new deal from Direct Line offers 52 days of free cover on car insurance, while home insurance policies offer 12 months' cover for the price of nine, with a free home-emergency policy to cover call-outs, parts and labour on some domestic crises.

6. Claim all available benefits – if family income is less than £40,000 and both partners work 16 hours a week plus, you're eligible for childcare tax credits worth hundreds of pounds, assuming the carer is registered with Ofsted.

7. Current Account – A&L, part of Santander Group, re-introduces its £100 cashback for those switching to its Premier Current Account from January 11. Other perks include a fee-free agreed overdraft for 12 months, free European travel insurance and 0.5 per cent credit interest, on condition at least £500 is paid in each month.

8. Maximise savings rates – the big institutions still need your cash, with Abbey and A&L kick-starting the new year with a range of fixed-rate bonds paying up to 4.1 per cent gross/AER on minimum £1 deposits invested for one year upwards.

9. Start saving for next Christmas – Yorkshire BS is launching a 2010 Christmas saver account, branch-based and postal, paying a fixed rate of 3.5 per cent gross on a minimum £10 deposit. The account will take a maximum £1,200.

Savers prepared to set aside £250 per month, can get five per cent from the Norwich & Peterboro' BS Family Regular Saver.

10. Energy bills – obvious ways to save, said Will Marples at uSwitch.com, include paying by direct debit, switching to dual fuel, and signing up to an online plan which are about £300 a year cheaper than standard energy plans.

11. TV, telephone and internet – Moneysupermarket.com reckons bundling your TV, landline and broadband connections can save about £130 a year, compared with the cost of standalone products.

For a standalone line rental deal, www.Homephonechoices.co.uk's Primus Home Phone Saver package offers free evening and weekend calls to UK landlines for £9.15 line rental per month.

12. Travel – If you know when you want to go, train travel needn't cost the earth. Advance tickets are available up to 12 weeks in advance, and are claimed to be the cheapest ticket option.

While bus passes are free for pensioners, railcards can lop a third from off-peak rail fares. Sign up for alerts from www.thetrainline.com to save an average 43 per cent on the price of 'turn up and go' tickets.

Many travel firms could go bust in 2010, putting your money at risk. The British Insurance Brokers Association (BIBA) recommends policies by Tokio Marine Europe, but Direct Line and AA Travel Insurance claim to offer protection against corporate failures.

• ***Unbiased.co.uk, which promotes the benefits of independent financial advice, has a new financial calendar to help consumers plan their payments and spending. It can be downloaded free at www.unbiased .co.uk/financial-tools/financial-calendar.***

Essential guide to where you can save

- KOS Media is offering a 50 per cent saving on the Remington Titanium microscreen3 shaver
- Maidstone Kia Motors in Maidstone is offering 10 per cent off all servicing
- FG Barnes Motors in Maidstone is offering a half-price MOT with full service
- KOS Media is offering an Inovalley digital (freeview) 7in LCD TV, integrated digital photo frame and radio alarm clock only £119.99 (inc p&p), RRP £149.99
- Northgate Alfa Motors in Canterbury is offering fixed-price servicing for cars three years plus, eg silver care, £139
- Village Hotel in Maidstone is offering a free glass of wine with your Sunday lunch throughout Jan and Feb in the Verve Grill
- KOS Media is offering six breathable, moth-resistant protective clothes covers from just £12.99 for a set of six
- Mayfair Drives in Rainham is offering up to 50 per cent off flooring
- KOS Media is offering a saving of £80 on the Pulsar Kinetic watch
- Ashford Orbital Motors in Ashford is offering MOTs for £34.15
- KOS Media is offering the Seiko ER9000 Oxford Reference Library for only £169.99
- G Flooring in Margate is offering 10 per cent off all remnants

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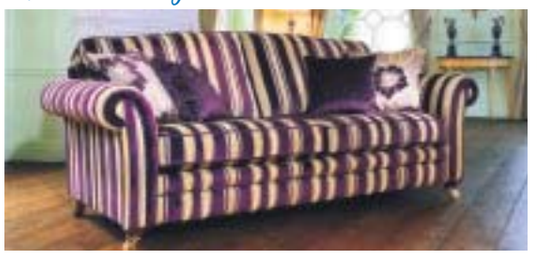

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FAMILY MATTERS: Parents must think carefully about how to provide for their children

Do you trust the children?

By **JEREMY PASSMORE**
Thomson Snell & Passmore

MANY people want to provide funds for their children and grandchildren, to help with all the varied calls for money they will experience during their younger years and into adulthood.

It is not always easy to know how best to structure any such provision. One wants to ensure that children have an appropriate degree of access to the monies, and that the structure serves to minimise the impact of taxes.

1. Bare Trusts – are arrangements where trustees are acting really only as nominees, with the beneficiaries having beneficial ownership of the monies.

Where funds are provided by grandparents, grandchildren can use their personal allowances for income tax and annual exemptions for CGT, which is likely to be better than if the monies were held by the parents or grandparents. If the funds are provided by parents, however, income tax is assessed on them until the children reach 18.

A disadvantage is at 18 the children can call for the money which belongs to them; because it might be spent unwisely does perhaps mean such trusts should not be over funded, to leave an 18 year old with too much to spend. While they are under 18, the monies can be used freely for their benefit, including paying school fees.

2. Discretionary Trusts – are used when the amount is more than would be appropriate for the children to take at 18; or where it is intended that the funds should be held to give benefit to the beneficiaries until a greater age such as 25; or where one wants to have the ability to favour some beneficiaries over others. Such trusts are very flexible and can target the benefit at the appropriate time.

A disadvantage is the trustees will need to manage the funds and produce a separate tax return; with a bare trust the income is simply treated as belonging to the child and only a tax repayment claim will be needed. Furthermore, income tax rates for trustees are now high, with a 50 per cent rate from April.

The effect of this is mitigated if the income is paid out to beneficiaries who are non or lower rate tax payers. Accordingly it would normally be best to fund the trust at the sort of level where income being generated can safely be paid out, to avoid the trustees retaining income and suffering tax at 50 per cent.

Once again there is a difference if the funds are provided by a parent, with the tax assessed on the parent if the income is distributed; but if the income is accumulated, then it will be taxed at 50 per cent! So if parents want to get funds out of their estates, perhaps for IHT reasons, it would be wise not to invest to produce a high level of income while the children are under age, although once they reach 18 the rules change and income paid out to the children is taxed on them and not their parent.

3. Provision by will – grandparents can bypass their children and set up trusts for grandchildren in their wills. The parents will probably benefit indirectly from the funds available and the trust can be drafted so the children's own personal tax position can be taken advantage of.

This will not happen if the fund is below the nil rate band threshold, currently £325,000. If someone wants to set up a larger fund, then there are ways to avoid any IHT charge by giving the children a right to income.

The circumstances and requirements of families differ greatly; one needs to think carefully about what one is trying to achieve and to structure gifts to achieve that in the most appropriate and tax effective way.

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Open a new car savings account

BY **STEVE LOADER**

THERE may be a glimmer of light at the end of the recessionary tunnel, but is it too soon to think about a new car?

No. In fact, there was a strong argument for some of us to buy new wheels even in the worst depths of the downturn and those circumstances continue to prevail.

With savings accounts earning so little, you might make more by saving a huge wedge on a new car thanks to big discounts at the moment.

Fact is, there has been much hype about the Government-sponsored £2,000-a-time Scrappage grant scheme, but dealers have been knocking cash off cars for months – whether you have a 10-year-old 'scrapper' to trade in or not.

There are other deals that can be factored in too, such as zero or low rate finance.

And don't forget to ask for trimmings like a tank of fuel, car mats or further discounts on any add-ons you fancy.

Do your homework though to ensure you are not buying an unpopular engine or trim combination or, worse, a car on 'run-out' where production ceased a while ago.

After all, you don't want to trade your old gas guzzler for another just as thirsty or likely to depreciate badly.

Buy wisely though and your new vehicle could save on fuel, insurance, road tax and even depreciation, though cars always devalue unless they achieve classic status.

You can also afford to congratulate yourself for ditching something less efficient in favour of a modern and more eco-friendly model.

On the other hand, review your proposed part-exchange; a knee-jerk disposal and the cost of replacement, could be daunting even when judged against its high running costs for the next three years and eventual disposal when the market is more settled.

Budget

Road tax favours downsizing – gas guzzling limos or 4x4s face £950 a year road tax from April 1 next year – but this is still a small part of the motoring budget for most of us.

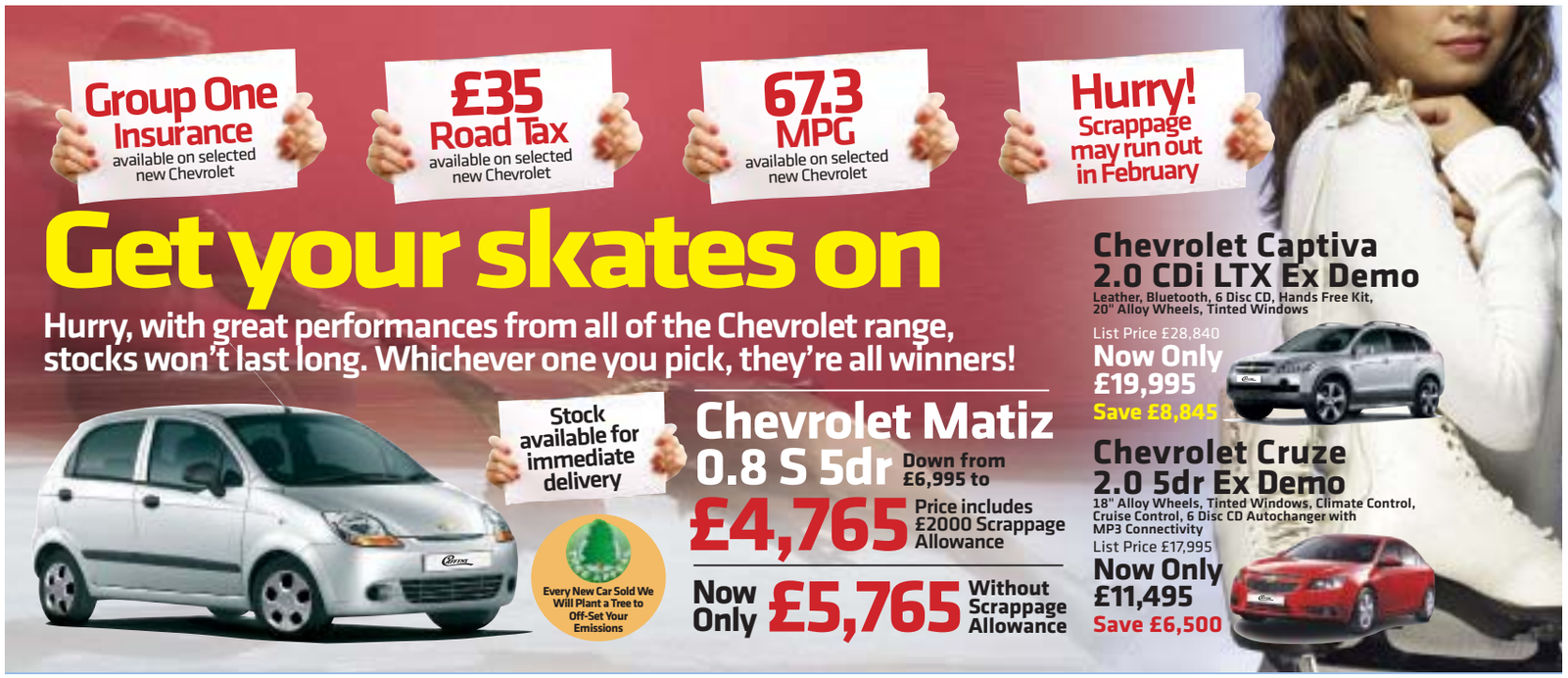
Many superminis currently sit in the lowest road tax band of £35 a year and though you might be tempted by new tax-exempt diesel eco models, just check the price against a standard version.

The eco supermini might save £105 road tax over three years, but how much will you pay upfront for it? A lot more and you might not think the driving experience worth paying extra for either.

Be aware too that from April 1, all cars emitting 130g/km or less will be zero-rated for tax in their first year on the road.

So, check out conventional equivalents of eco models and don't dismiss petrol power; the fuel is still cheaper and makes sense for lower mileage users, while emission and consumption levels are closing the gap on their heavier diesel equivalents.

TIME FOR A NEW ONE?: And how about one with a seven-year warranty like this Kia Ceed – all Kias now come with the same unique cover



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Essential guide to where you can save

- Northgate Alfa Motors in Canterbury is offering fixed price servicing for cars three years plus gold care £169
- Robins and Day Motors in Rochester is offering MOT from £29.99. Service and MOT from £119.99
- Canterbury Hyundai Motors in Canterbury is offering MOTs while you wait for £29.95
- Village Hotel in Maidstone is offering 25 per cent off the joining fee for the leisure club
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- Mayfair Drives in Rainham is offering up to 50 per cent off paving
- Rare Breeds Centre in Ashford has a child goes free with every paying adult. Offer on now
- Ashford Orbital Motors in Ashford is offering servicing from £99.95 inc VAT, all makes
- Caffyns Tunbridge Wells Motors in Tunbridge Wells is offering half price MOT with service
- Old Sawmills furniture store in Ashford has an oak computer desk and chair promotion – various sizes, styles and leather colours, plus free banker's lamp. Only £1,295

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CLASS: Alfa Romeo's dramatic MiTo supermini proves eco motoring need not be boring motoring

TAX EXEMPT: Vauxhall has announced an improved Vauxhall Corsa, badged with its ultra-green ecoFLEX sub-branding, that is tax exempt thanks to just 98g/km emissions

Pros and cons of road tax savings

BY **STEVE LOADER**

DON'T swap your current car just to save a few pounds on road tax.

On the other hand, Government efforts to tax 'gas guzzlers' off the road can further ease the burden on your motoring budget if you plan to downsize or go for a more fuel-efficient model.

Chancellor Alistair Darling eased the pressure a bit after an outcry induced by draconian rates due to be applied to larger cars... just as the recession clobbered the economy.

But Labour – and a Conservative government won't be any different due to existing agreements to clean up pollution – has said it will continue to drive down vehicle sizes and emissions by using tough VED (Vehicle Excise Duty) rates, based on CO2 emissions rather than fuel consumption and applying only to cars registered after March 1, 2001.

At present, you can escape paying anything if your car emits 100g/km or less and, from April 1, this benefit will apply to any car with a 130g/km or less rating, within one year of being registered. After that it will revert to £20-30 a year.

By the same token, anyone buying a serious CO2 emitter discharging 255g/km or more will be clobbered by a £950 charge in the first year and £435 thereafter when the new scale comes into effect – the current tax for cars in this band is £405.

Curiously, due to inconsistent emissions data on older cars, these are taxed simply at £120/year up to 1,549cc and then £185 if larger – something of a bargain for owners of older 'gas guzzlers' if they can bear higher fuel bills, opt for a £1,500-2,000 LPG (liquid petroleum gas) conversion or cover relatively few miles. The higher charge increases to £205 after April 1.

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Smarter driving for better saving

BY **STEVE LOADER**

DOWNSIZING to a more fuel and tax efficient car must be just part of your recession-busting motoring plan.

The next stage involves smarter driving and journey planning and getting fitter by walking and cycling instead of using the car for short journeys – cold engines waste fuel and produce 60 per cent more emissions than warm ones.

Short trips also mean more servicing and engine wear – a moped or motorcycle might be a better option.

If you must drive, follow these tips from the Institute of Advanced Motorists and RAC Foundation:

• Plan your route to save strain on car and driver. Take the direct route – a sat nav can help – and go off peak if possible. Commuters should think about car sharing, Park and Ride bus schemes, or other public transport.

• Have your vehicle serviced regularly. Neglected engines waste at least 10 per cent more fuel and catalytic converters only clean emissions when properly maintained.

• Check tyres – under-inflated tyres wear faster, waste fuel, are dangerous and contribute to a growing environmental problem. Check pressures weekly.

• Obey speed limits to save and stay legal. Feather the throttle at cruising speed; 56mph uses 25 per cent less fuel than 70mph and a smoother driving style saves fuel.

• Accelerate briskly without racing the engine – pulling away too fast uses up to 60 per cent more fuel. Intelligent gear changes at modest engine speeds can save up to 15 per cent in fuel.

• Reduce drag – remove roof racks and carriers when not in use and keep windows closed to avoid drag and wasted fuel. Remove unnecessary and heavy boot luggage and wide wheels and tyres that add rolling resistance. Air conditioning costs fuel too, so try to use the fan and vents unassisted.

• Buy green fuel and use less. Look for low sulphur 'city' diesel or cleaner petrol (low sulphur/aromatics). Consider converting to LPG (liquid petroleum gas) – half the price of petrol and with lower emissions.

• Think ahead – there is no point rushing and then having to brake suddenly.

• Be a tank miser. Why fill the tank to the brim and burn more fuel carrying more weight than necessary?

• Stuck in traffic? Turn off the engine after two minutes to save fuel and emissions.

• For more eco driving tips see Julie Maddocks' online video report at: http://www.yourkenttv.co.uk/community.

ECO-FRIENDLY: Driving more economically can also add to the savings you make from purchasing eco-friendly models like the Skoda Octavia Estate Greenline (above) or Nissan's 'Swiss army knife' Qashqai (right) – the car that can be family a hatchback, people carrier, SUV and even 4x4 if you buy a flagship model

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Official Government Test Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO_2 emissions (g/km). Corsa 3-door SRi 1.4i 16v (100PS) manual: Urban – 40.4 (7.0), Extra-urban – 61.4 (4.6), Combined – 51.4 (5.5). CO_2 emissions 129g/km. Astra Sport Hatch Sport 1.4i 16v manual: Urban – 35.3 (8.0), Extra-urban – 56.5 (5.0), Combined – 46.3 (6.1). CO_2 emissions 146g/km.

Price shown includes £2000 Vauxhall Scrappage Allowance which is dependent on the vehicle meeting the full Government Vauxhall Scrappage incentive criteria. The Government Scrappage payment applies to cars registered on or before 29.02.00 (vans on or before 28.02.02) when traded in against a new car subject to conditions and whilst Government funding applies. Models illustrated are Corsa 3-dr SRi 1.4i 16v (100PS) at £14,484 Man. Rec. OTR (offer price £9995 OTR) and Astra Sport Hatch Sport 1.4i 16v at £16,339 Man. Rec. OTR (offer price £11695* OTR). On-the-road (OTR) prices include number plates, delivery, 12 months' Government Vehicle Excise Duty, DVLA new vehicle first registration fee of £55 and VAT at 17.5%. Excludes fuel and insurance. Offers are available to private individuals, and small businesses 1-24 (purchase only). All other sales categories are excluded. Offers apply to selected new vehicles ordered or registered between 01.01.10 and 28.02.10, and are subject to status, eligibility, terms and conditions. Offers are available on selected Retailer stocks only, cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer, unless stated otherwise, and are available at participating Retailers only. Excludes Isle of Man and Channel Islands.

BY **STEVE LOADER**

Motoring myths shattered – more savings pocketed

FUEL prices continue to be volatile – no help to drivers as Britain tries to claw its way out of recession.

The UK's biggest supplier of company cars reckons this also comes on top of motorists being suckered by costly motoring myths.

Lex Autolease associate director Chris Chandler said: "We own over 300,000 vehicles and some of the feedback we receive from drivers shows that a lot of bad habits have crept in, due to myths passed down from one colleague to another or through friends and family."

The firm's 'Myths Hit List' is:

'Premium fuel is good for your car every now and again'

It is only suitable for high performance cars needing superior fuel for efficient running – the higher cost is repaid by better mpg. Drivers using non-performance cars should stick to ordinary unleaded and diesel.

Another myth suggests supermarket fuel is poorer quality than that from oil companies' forecourts, but they often come from the same source, so you're paying more for the brand and any additives included.

'It's best to fit your new tyres to the front axle'

Actually, they should be fitted to the rear. More grip on the rear axle improves stability on slippery roads and could prevent a spin.

Drivers are also more used to worn tyres on the front, because most modern cars are front wheel drive and wear front treads faster than the rears; switching part-worn rears to the front maintains a balance that the driver is used to.

'Allow the car to warm up before driving off'

The engine will warm up faster, use less fuel and pump out less CO2 if you drive off immediately, rather than leave it to idle for a while. In winter, this also helps the car heater warm faster, though windscreens must be fully defrosted before setting off.

'Running the fuel tank near to empty helps to clean it'

ON A ROLL: If you are buying two new tyres, they should be fitted to the back wheels say experts, as most modern cars are front-wheel drive, like the latest Vauxhall Astra and Mazda3 pictured here – new additions to the family hatchback sector.

Fuel tanks do not 'self-clean'. It is more likely that you will misjudge your next fill-up and risk seizing up your engine or other components; driving with little or no fuel can be almost as damaging to a vehicle as putting in the wrong fuel. Fill up as quickly as possible when your warning light appears.

'Filling up slows down your car'

Partially true. A heavy fuel load impacts upon fuel efficiency and braking distances, but acceleration and top speed is barely compromised by a full tank.

'No claims protection insurance protects my premium if I have a crash'

Standard insurances only protect the discount you would have received at the end of a claim-free year. If you have a claim, insurance companies can increase your overall premium, despite having a no claims protection policy, because you are an increased insurance risk.

Admittedly, the company has a vested interest in the final point:

'Leasing is more expensive than buying'

Many businesses and motorists fail to properly calculate the true cost of ownership. List price alone is a red herring, and ignores true running costs: finance, depreciation, maintenance and insurance.

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Last call for Scrappage?

BY **STEVE LOADER**

AFTER a stuttering start the Government's £2,000 Scrappage incentive accelerated into a big success last year.

So much so that the initial £300 million fund needed a 50 per cent top-up last autumn to avoid running out before the proposed end of the scheme in March this year.

But money is dwindling again, and it is difficult to read how the Government will react to another top-up or an extension.

It could be simply delaying a decision so that it can maximise the political mileage ahead of the spring general election, but it is also questionable whether the scheme does much for UK PLC or its balance of payments – foreign-based carmakers and their workforces have been the main beneficiaries.

So get your order in now before the cash runs out if you fancy swapping your banger.

HIT: Scrappage made the frugal Hyundai i10 hatchback one of the UK's top sellers

NEW LOOK: Scrappage has tempted many people out of old cars and into sharp-suited affordable new ones like the Chevrolet Cruze

The donor car must have been registered before August 31, 1999 and your name must have been on the V5 'logbook' for 12 months before the date your new car order is placed.

Carmakers like the scheme, though quietly annoyed that they would be expected to contribute half of each '£2,000 Government Scrappage grant' and that the Treasury would claw back some of its money through VAT on each car sale.

But they have seen that they can use Scrappage to buy market share and keep car plants running through the recession, and some brands have been chipping in extra cash on top of their £1,000 per unit as well as more specification and zero per cent finance – though this is no big deal when interest rates are so low.

This also indicates how keen dealers are to do business, so don't be despondent if you're not in a position to take advantage of Scrappage; with the exception of city cars and superminis, you should get a hefty discount on most new cars without a banger to scrap.

If you have been out of the car market for a while though, do your research. You will have heard that diesel cars now outsell petrol, but that is not the full picture.

They cost more, and the extra weight can be wearing and intrusive in the smaller cars most in demand now, and you need to cover many miles to recover the extra outlay.

Meanwhile, petrol is making a comeback with lighter, small capacity turbocharged engines able to deliver diesel pulling power and lower emissions.

You might also consider a hybrid, but these cost more and this must also be weighed against the mileage you intend to cover.

Essential guide to where you can save

- Northgate Alfa Motors in Canterbury is offering fixed price servicing for cars three-years plus, for example bronze care, £109
- Village Hotel in Maidstone is offering a free glass of wine or a pint with any main course in the Victory Pub
- KOS Media is offering a saving of up to £40 on Slumberdown Memory Foam Mattress Toppers
- FG Barnes Motors in Maidstone is offering £250 worth of accessories with Network Q purchases
- KOS Media is offering the Ewbank Evolution II for £24.99, save £5 on RRP
- Ashford Orbital Motors in Ashford is offering a winter check for £19.95 inc VAT, with free de-icer, ice scraper and screen wash
- KOS Media is offering a saving of £30 on the leader MD Electronic Typewriter – only £169.99
- Caffyns Tunbridge Wells Motors in Tunbridge Wells is offering an MOT for only £35
- Sink Ports kitchens and bathrooms store in Maidstone is offering 10 per cent off kitchens
- Maidstone Kia Motors in Maidstone is offering 10 per cent off all accessories
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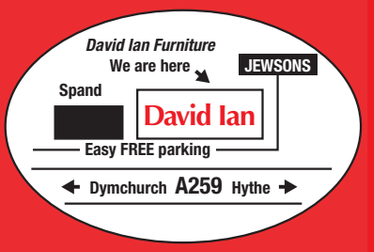

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ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

Celebrating 125 years of outstanding education

College celebrates the past and looks to the future

CELEBRATIONS

Kent College is determined to make 2010 a year to remember as it commemorates 125 years of providing outstanding education.

Representatives of the school, past and present, will mark the opening of festivities with a celebration and thanksgiving service at Canterbury Cathedral on February 1. The school choirs and orchestras will entertain with an exciting programme of music, and the day will culminate in the service at 2.30pm.

The finale to the celebrations for this special anniversary year will be a Grand Ball on July 3 for parents, and for students past and present, to dance the night away.

Other events this year will focus on the ways the school has changed since it was founded in 1885. Originally established as a boys' school, the college first admitted girls into the sixth form in 1973, and in 1975 became the fully co-educational school it is today.

For more information about the school and anniversary celebrations visit www.kentcollege.com

THE SCHOOL TODAY

Whilst Kent College values and cherishes its past, it is today at the forefront of education in the 21st century.

Nestling in idyllic surroundings on the outskirts of Canterbury, the school is made-up of four parts - the Early Years Foundation Stage, the Infant and Junior School, the Senior School, and the International Study Centre - and provides a first-class education for 660 pupils, ranging in age from 3 to 18, almost a quarter of whom are boarders who hail from no less than 29 countries from around the world.

The majority of children live in Kent, and commute to school from as far afield as Sittingbourne, Ashford, Hythe, Folkestone, Dover and Sandwich. Working parents benefit from the fact that the school offers an extended school day to all of its pupils, and even the option of staying overnight if the need arises. The school ensures this extra time is put to excellent use, and strongly believes that it contributes greatly to the undoubted success of their pupils.

The school's year seven entrance examinations take place on Tuesday, January 26, with scholarship tests for sport, art, drama and music the following day. For more information call 01227 763231.

STUDENT LAPTOPS

The chalk and slate of 125 years ago are definitely things of the past, as 2010 will see all students issued with their own MacBook computer. The first issue will be rolled out this month with the rest of the school following in September. The initiative is student-focused and the computer will be used as a universal textbook and resource, with the additional facility of writing tool, simulation/modelling tool and media player.

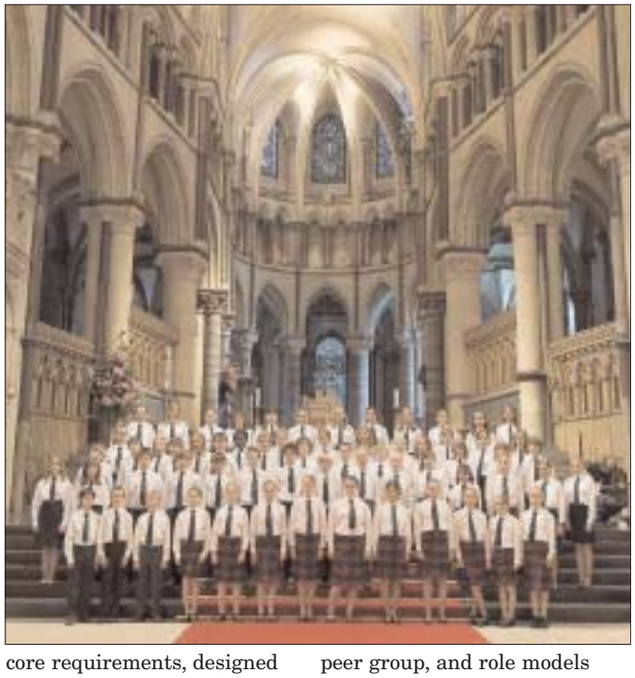
INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE

The college has recently been recognised as a world school and is delighted to be able to offer the International Baccalaureate Diploma alongside its A-level courses. The International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP) is a prestigious pre-university qualification, and is recognised in 75 countries at over two thousand universities worldwide.

Students study six courses ensuring breadth of experience in languages, social studies, the experimental sciences and mathematics. Additionally the programme has three core requirements, designed to broaden the educational experience and to challenge students: the extended essay, theory of knowledge, and a programme of creativity, action and service.

It is envisaged the IB will particularly suit some of the school's students, crediting them for the work that they already do in the community and on the sports field, whilst also allowing them to pursue more subjects.

A sixth-form evening about the diploma and A-level study will be held on Tuesday, January 19 at 6pm. For more information call 01227 763231.



WHY START AT THREE?

When we look back at the high flyers who have left Kent College at the age of 18, it is very interesting to see how many of them entered the school at the age of three. Not just academically able, but accomplished team players in sport, eloquent musicians, contributors to society, leaders of their own peer group, and role models to youngsters at the school.

The school attributes such success to setting high expectations, searching out and developing talent, and encouraging each individual to be the best that they can. No-one is allowed to be overlooked, and the school prides itself on the fantastic array of opportunities it provides. Perhaps most importantly is the belief that every success should be celebrated.

The infant and Junior School are hosting an open morning on Saturday 30th Jan, 9.30 to 12.30.

For more information, or to arrange a visit for another time, contact the Junior School on 01227 762436.

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Well done for caring

A CARER who works with child victims of cruelty and neglect has been highly commended for the quality of his studies.

Robin Snelling, who is employed by the Caldecott Foundation in Smeeth, near Ashford, received the accolade after completing his NVQ Level 3 in health and social care for children and young people.

Caldecott chief executive Clive Lee said: "We are all very proud of Robin's achievement and thrilled that his hard work has been acknowledged.

"Robin is a first-class care worker and an asset to both the foundation and the young people in his care."

Learn skills to work

AN OFFICE skills course has been launched for adults planning to return to work.

Based at the Maidstone campus of MidKent College, the part-time programme teaches skills in bookkeeping, typing, IT and more.

Lessons are held between 9.30am-2.30pm and are specifically targeted at those who have taken time out of work to bring up children or for other reasons. Call 01634 402020 for more information.

Celebrate achievers

NOMINATIONS are now open for the fourth annual South East Learning and Skills Awards.

Organised by the Learning and Skills Council, the awards celebrate the achievements of individuals and organisations and include categories such as apprentice of the year and "achieving against the odds" learner of the year.

Entries close on Friday, February 26. Download a nomination form at www.learningandskillsawards.org.uk

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AT HOME: The Open University courses mean foster parents can learn without having to worry about childcare

Home schooling helps to foster parental skills

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

FOSTER carers have been offered the chance to improve their skills by enrolling on one of several new courses with the Open University.

Created in partnership with the Fostering Network, the qualifications have been launched at a time when there are some 700 foster carers in Kent looking after about 1,000 children.

Nationally there are 43,000 foster families, with an estimated 10,000 more needed.

Available courses include undergraduate degrees in child care and health and social care.

Hazel Halle of the Fostering Network said: "Fostering is an increasingly complex and demanding job, and foster carers need a wide range of skills to provide the best possible care.

"Like all professionals they must have access to ongoing learning and development opportunities.

"The partnership with the Open University will remove barriers and make it easier for more foster carers to access formal academic training and qualifications.

"This will enable them to fulfil their role as child care experts alongside the team of other professionals working with a child."

A recent report by the Fostering Network revealed that 83 per cent of carers would like to improve their skills, and 70 per cent have asked their fostering service to provide more training.

It also showed that three-quarters have turned down training in the past because they were unable to secure childcare, the location was difficult to reach or it was scheduled at an inconvenient time.

As well as the more formal degree qualifications, the OU is also offering introductory courses on subjects including healthcare, nutrition and psychology.

Foster carer Kevin Meehan said: "We are expected to be homemakers, counsellors, mediators and teachers, as well as experts in conflict management, dysfunctional behaviour and child psychology.

"Access to academic and professional training is therefore essential for us to continue to provide children with the highest standard of care."

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Raising Your Game is a £4.9 million Lottery-Funded project delivered in partnership by Mencap, Nacro and Ican and will run between November 2009 and November 2014. It will be delivered in six pilot areas across England, including East Kent, and will work with all young people with learning disabilities between the ages of 14 and 25, including those who are at risk of, or are, currently offending to develop innovative ways of fully participating in their lives and services.

The post will be based in East Kent.

Regional Co-ordinator (37.5 hours)
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You will:

- Develop and implement young peoples' participation standards across each region in years one and two;
- Identify and develop placement opportunities' and from the end of year two go on to place young people with a learning disability who are at risk of offending or who have offended.
- Identify and help organise opportunities for the young people involved to extend their skills and build upon their confidence, and so help diminish the likelihood of offending.

Regional Learning Disability Consultant (16 hours)
£17,727 pro rata

Having first-hand experience of what it is like to have a learning disability, you will support the Regional Coordinator to make information easy to understand, give presentations at conferences and events and give training to different groups. You will use your advocacy skills to tell people about the project and the needs of young people with a learning disability.

Equal Opportunities
Mencap aims to ensure that our jobs are open and accessible to all regardless of their gender, race, religion, sexuality, age or any other factor which might incur discrimination.
Applicants with disabilities
We are particularly keen in Mencap to promote the employment of people with a disability. Mencap will select for interview all applicants with a disability who meet the essential criteria for the job.

Appointments are subject to Mencap receiving an enhanced disclosure from the Criminal Records Bureau which we consider appropriate

Closing Date 4th February 2010

Interviews scheduled 15th& 16th February 2010

For further information and to apply please visit our website at www.mencap.org.uk , email us at Recruitment.CommunityAction@mencap.org.uk

The above posts are funded by the National Lottery through the Big Lottery Fund

LOTTERY FUNDED

POSITIVE ABOUT DISABLED PEOPLE

"Thinking of a brand new career?"

Think Saga.

OPPORTUNITIES IN GENERAL INSURANCE AND OUTBOUND SALES
Basic salary of £10,856 - £13,000 • OTE £16 - £18k+ (basic salary and uncapped commission)
Excellent benefits packages | Folkestone

It's real people we are after…people who will listen to customers, take the time to understand their needs and build a real rapport with them. That's what we call doing things properly for our customers as we deliver great service, selling our products to people aged 50 and over.

And if you can help us achieve that, we'll do things properly for you too. You'll get excellent training and development at every stage and your hard work will be rewarded with the chance to earn additional bonuses, incentive trips, entry to our elite Top Producers' Club and unlimited earnings potential. There are also superb benefits including private healthcare, pension scheme, social club and discounts on insurance products, holidays and flights for you and your relatives.

What's more, it means a friendly working environment – as well as all the support you need to do a terrific job.

The question is, have you got what it takes? You'll need to be target driven and able to rise to new challenges, that's for sure.

If it's time for you to enjoy the rewards you deserve please write enclosing an application form, quoting reference SVS356/KOS to Mark Mear, Group Director of Sales, c/o Human Resources Department, Saga Group Limited, Enbrook Park, Folkestone, Kent CT20 3SE or email: human.resources@saga.co.uk Please call 01303 774888 for an application form or download one from our website.

Closing date: 22 January 2010.

saga.co.uk

INVESTORS IN PEOPLE

SAGA
Saga people do things properly

EXPERIENCE CAR SALES EXECUTIVE

Based in Maidstone

Whitehouse Maidstone Chrysler Jeep and Hyundai dealership, is looking for an experienced car sales executive with proven track record in the motor trade.

A competitive salary is offered together with on target bonus, company vehicle and 22 days holiday per annum.

To apply or for more information call **Mark Wood** on **markwood@whitehousegroup.co.uk** or send your CV to **Whitehouse Maidstone, 1-17 The Broadway, Maidstone, Kent ME16 8QX**

MortgageFind

Due to further expansion, Mortgage Find are currently looking for a highly motivated, qualified Mortgage Consultant to work with our existing team, within one of Kent's leading Estate Agency Branches.

With on target earnings in the region of **£40K + p.a.**

Call Mark Alexander on **01322 558877**

Quex House & Gardens

The Powell-Cotton Museum
Quex Garden Restaurant
Banqueting Facility

Due to restructuring of our restaurant facilities we now have vacancies for

Front of House Supervisor and Assistant
Sous Chef

For an application form please apply to:-
Mr M P Harman, Managing Director,
QME Limited Powell-Cotton Museum,
Quex Park, Birchington, Kent, CT7 OBH enquiries@quexmuseum.org
or call: 01843 842 168

deadline: 25/02/2010

Domestic Help
and also a
Part-Time Cook
required at Care Home in Westgate on Sea

For more information please contact Debbie or Diane
Tel: 01843 831491

To advertise in this section
01303 817040

TECHNICIAN REQUIRED

(FULLY SKILLED)
Based in Maidstone

Whitehouse Maidstone is looking for a fully skilled technician preferably with Chrysler Jeep or Hyundai experience.

Salary is negotiable with on target bonus offered together with 22 days holiday per annum.

To apply or for more information call Dennis Crighton on 01622 686864 or send your CV to Whitehouse Maidstone, 1-17 The Broadway, Maidstone, Kent ME16 8QX.

WANT A NEW CAREER IN THE NEW YEAR OR JUST WANT TO TOP-UP YOUR HOURS?

Terra BLU

COMMUNITY SUPPORT WORKERS required in TONBRIDGE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS AND PADDOCK WOOD

- Self Employed basis only
- £8.25 to £10.00 per hour
- Full-time and Part-time hours available
- You need to be happy taking responsibility and working with older people on your own
- Must have own car and phone
- Uniform provided
- Full training programme available

Experience preferred but not essential.
All applicants subject to Enhanced CRB Check
CALL ELAINE/JULIA ON 01892 529429
FOR AN INTERVIEW
www.terrablu.co.uk
An Investor in People Employer

PART-TIME DISTRIBUTOR REQUIRED

Join our award winning team and earn extra cash Opportunities are available to join our team in the Tunbridge Wells area.

Hours being 4-5 on a Friday delivering our newspapers to various outlets.
Rate of pay is £6.50 per hour plus mileage.
Initiative and smart appearance are the qualifications we need for you to become a representative of our award winning company.

If interested, please contact
Barbara Coker on 01303 817072
or email: barbara.coker@kosmedia.co.uk

KOS Media | Apple Barn | Hythe Road | Smeeth | Ashford | Kent | TN25 6SR
www.kentnews.co.uk | www.jobsforkent.co.uk | www.yourkenttv.co.uk
KOS media — Award Winning Company

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Require a
Part time Carer
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Contact: Deborah Harris, Manager
Tel: 0797 0887160

"Time for a change?"

We'll show you the way.

Competitive salaries + excellent benefits • Thanet

At Saga, we pride ourselves on doing things properly for our customers – offering a friendly service over the phone that meets their needs, promptly and accurately. If this describes you, then there's plenty to look forward to here.

CUSTOMER RELATIONSHIP ADVISORS

Are you good at spotting sales opportunities? Do you thrive on meeting and exceeding targets? Can you flourish in an ever changing, fast paced environment? If so, you could join our team introducing existing customers to the wide range of Saga products whilst providing excellent customer service. Ref: SVS354/KOS.

MOTOR CLAIMS OPPORTUNITIES

With various opportunities across our Motor Claims department, you could be dealing with anything from the initial report of a claim, vehicle repair management and negotiation of total loss settlements with third parties. You'll need to be a quick learner and really thrive in a fast moving, target based environment. The ability to build rapport and enhance customer experience is essential. Ref: SVS355/KOS.

As part of our team, we'll ensure that you'll get excellent training and development at every stage. Your hard work will be rewarded with a fantastic range of benefits including private healthcare, pension scheme, social club and discounts on insurance products, holidays and flights for you and your relatives.

So if you're looking for a new challenge, please send your application to Clare Dickinson, HR Officer, Saga Group Limited, Enbrook Park, Folkestone, Kent CT20 3SE or email human.resources@saga.co.uk Please call 01303 774888 for an application form or download one from our website. Please quote the appropriate reference number in your application.

Closing date: 22 January 2010.

saga.co.uk

INVESTORS IN PEOPLE

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"Thinking of a brand new career?"

Think Saga.

OPPORTUNITIES IN GENERAL INSURANCE AND OUTBOUND SALES
Basic salary of £10,856 - £13,000 • OTE £16 - £18k+ (basic salary and uncapped commission)
Excellent benefits packages | Thanet

It's real people we are after…people who will listen to customers, take the time to understand their needs and build a real rapport with them. That's what we call doing things properly for our customers as we deliver great service, selling our products to people aged 50 and over.

And if you can help us achieve that, we'll do things properly for you too. You'll get excellent training and development at every stage and your hard work will be rewarded with the chance to earn additional bonuses, incentive trips, entry to our elite Top Producers' Club and unlimited earnings potential. There are also superb benefits including private healthcare, pension scheme, social club and discounts on insurance products, holidays and flights for you and your relatives.

What's more, it means a friendly working environment – as well as all the support you need to do a terrific job.

The question is, have you got what it takes? You'll need to be target driven and able to rise to new challenges, that's for sure.

If it's time for you to enjoy the rewards you deserve please write enclosing an application form, quoting reference SVS356/KOS to Mark Mear, Group Director of Sales, c/o Human Resources Department, Saga Group Limited, Enbrook Park, Folkestone, Kent CT20 3SE or email: human.resources@saga.co.uk Please call 01303 774888 for an application form or download one from our website.

Closing date: 29 January 2010.

saga.co.uk

INVESTORS IN PEOPLE

SAGA
Saga people do things properly

ASSISTANT ACCOUNTANT

A well established motor retailer in the Swale area requires an Assistant Accountant.

A busy hands-on position with responsibilities for producing monthly management information, reconciliation of Balance Sheet accounts for audit purposes, VAT returns, Payroll, cash control and ad-hoc analysis is required.

The successful candidate will be well organized, pay attention to detail and possess good accounting skills and IT knowledge, particularly Excel.

Previous motor industry experience and use of Kerridge DMS systems will be an advantage. A £20k + salary is offered dependant on applicants level of experience.

Applications in writing please with detailed CV, giving a brief summary of previous experience, to Mr Les Knight at Pomphrey of Sittingbourne Ltd, London Road, Bapchild, Kent ME9 9AQ or by email to les.knight@pomphreys.co.uk

J G Burgess & Co

Ufton Lane
Sittingbourne
ME10 1JB

Position - Admin Assistant

Computer literacy essential and ability to perform a range of routine procedures in a busy office environment. Telephone and communication skills required.
Team player able to support other members of staff.
30 hours per week.
Please enquire in writing only, enclosing CV.

MOMENTS FOSTERING LIMITED

Vacancies: 2 Social Workers

We are currently recruiting a full time senior supervising social worker to run our support team in the Whitstable office, we are also looking for a supervising social worker to work alongside them.
The positions main roles will be supporting and supervising our foster carers and to undertake social work tasks within the agency. The agency offers the chance to:

- To be part of a close and supportive team striving for a high level of care for Looked After Children and our carers
- To receive a competitive salary in line with the applicants experience and qualifications

If either post interests you, we would like to hear from you! Please send us your CV's or call for a chat!

Daniel Croft Email:daniel@momentsfostering.co.uk
Moments Fostering Limited, Holme Lodge Farm
Pean Hill, Whitstable, Kent CT5 3AY Tel: 01227 479444 Fax: 01227 479555

01227 479444

Office Cleaner

07:00 – 09:00, Tunbridge Wells, £60pw.
Tel 01622 882492

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Sales People
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No experience necessary.
Full training and vehicle provided.

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Contact Claire on
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SALES & CUSTOMER SERVICE AGENTS
OPEN DAYS

Tuesday 19 January and Wednesday 27 January • 4.30pm – 6.30pm
At Cheriton Parc House, High Street, Cheriton, Folkestone CT18 8AN

Here at Direct Choice, we're the growing business that delivers great value insurance products over the phone and online. Having been in the area for six months now, we're going from strength to strength and have some terrific career opportunities.

For our team, success is all about delighting our customers. Listening to them, understanding what they need and providing a brilliant service. If that sounds like your kind of company, then come along to one of our **open days**. Find out how you could help us build the future of our new contact centre at the former Eurotunnel offices just off the M20 in Cheriton, 20 minutes from Ashford.

For both roles, there will be full training, not to mention ongoing support every step of the way. So while contact centre experience would be ideal, it's certainly not essential if you've excellent communication skills and a helpful personality. As part of the Acromas family – that also includes Saga and The AA – we offer a basic salary plus uncapped commission, outstanding opportunities for career progression and a first-rate benefits package.

If you can't make either of the open days, we'd still like to hear from you. To apply for either of the positions, call 01303 774888 for an application form and post to Roisin McCrudden, HR Officer, Direct Choice, Enbrook Park, Folkestone, Kent CT20 3SE. Alternatively, email your CV to recruitment@directchoice.co.uk Please quote reference DC361/KOS.

www.directchoice.com

directchoice

Office Assistant

£15,039 – £16,830 PRO RATA • 32 HOURS PER WEEK
BASED THANET

KCA (UK) is an expanding and vibrant organisation providing a wide range of high quality and innovative specialist services in the drug, alcohol and mental health sectors.

You will be the first point of contact to all callers, visitors and Service Users at KCA's Thanet office in Margate. Confident in handling enquiries about the service whether by telephone, email, post or in person, you will ensure that enquiries are dealt with promptly, efficiently and courteously.

Offering support to the Administrator, you will have top MS Office skills and a 'can do' approach. You will be able to communicate with a wide cross-section of staff and external contacts in a highly professional manner. You need to be able to prioritise, work to tight deadlines and respond appropriately to referrals.

If you would like to discuss this post further, please contact Sue Hamilton, Service Manager KCA Thanet on 01843 298355 ex. 217 or Christine Gordon, Admin Lead on 01795 590795 ex. 2.

Closing date: Wednesday 20 January 2010.
Interview date: Wednesday 27 January 2010.

Application form and job description can be downloaded from www.kca.org.uk or call 01795 590635. Please quote reference number 635.

KCA (UK) is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity for all and welcomes applications from people with experience of substance use or who have had previous problems with substance misuse. Charity No: 292824

www.kca.org.uk

K·C·A Services in the Community

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The smart way to find a job in the County

ETHELBERT CHILDRENS SERVICES

"Working and Caring for Children since 1972"

SOCIAL WORKER

Thanet

An exciting opportunity to join an **Outstanding** Independent Fostering Provider Ethelbert Childrens Services Fostering Team requires an appropriately qualified person to join their Team of Supervising Social Workers. Registration with the GSCC is essential as is the commitment to achieve the very best outcomes for children and young people in our care. The successful candidate can expect to receive a competitive salary and employment package.
For further information or an informal chat please call
Lynn Wilkinson or Debi Atkin on 01843 229522.
Closing Date: 31January 2010

Please visit our website for further information or contact the Personnel Department for an Application Form at Cheesemans Farmhouse, Alland Grange Lane, Manston, Kent, CT12 5BZ 01843 823762 or at www.jobs.ethelbertonline.co.uk

Due to a recent increase in demand we also require

FOSTER CARERS

Throughout Kent and SE London

We are seeking to recruit Foster individuals or couples who can show excellence in childcare or who have similar relevant experience or backgrounds.
Excellent supervision and 24 hour support, individualised professional training and more will be your reward for joining this Outstanding Team of Foster Carers.
Please contact Lynn Wilkinson or Debi Atkin on 01843 229522 for an informal discussion and an application pack or find us at www.ethelbert.net

We are an equal opportunities employer

KOS media
Award Winning Company

Account Manager

ASHFORD • £GOOD REMUNERATION

Exciting developments within KOS Media Group has created the need to appoint a polished sales professional.

KOS Media Group has been one of the fastest growing independent regional media companies over the last seven years. Its newspapers have won more than ten national awards during that time, including UK Local Newspaper of the Year seven times. Our aim is to truly reflect the important events happening within our region via a combination of quality county newspapers, editorially-led local, midweek newspapers and the page turning editions as well as community websites and online local TV.

A new account manager is required to play a key role developing new business and maintaining existing relationships. The ideal candidate should be comfortable with all stages of account management and should be proficient at sourcing leads, creating initial contact, delivering presentations, writing proposals, negotiating and closing.

The person we are seeking will be an energetic and enthusiastic individual with good interpersonal skills, strong relationship-building capability and have excellent verbal and written communication ability. They will need to demonstrate a proven sales track record, preferably from within media, will have a good understanding of the benefits of printed, online and live media and ideally knowledge of the Kent marketplace.

KOS Media offers a good basic salary, alongside performance and target-related bonus, plus five weeks annual holiday.

If you believe you are a polished professional sales person looking for a challenging role, please submit your CV to Head of Department christine.davidson@kosmedia.co.uk

AutoPlanet
Automotive Retail Group

Sales Executives
OTE £50k+ (Basic up to £18K (Supplemented) + Commission and Company Car)

Self motivated and confident with a strong desire to succeed?
Enjoy working as part of a team in a fast paced environment?
Want to be the best and be rewarded for it?
Have a genuine interest in cars and customer service?
Experience is preferred but not essential as full training will be given.

Interested?
Please forward your C.V. and covering letter to
Nicky Simmons, Head of H.R. Waters AutoPlanet, Bircholt Road, Parkwood, Maidstone, Kent ME15 9XY or email:
nsimmons@argltd.co.uk Full UK driving licence essential.

All applications are treated in the strictest of confidence. We are an equal opportunities employer.

all makes used KIA MOTORS

Estimating Manager

An experienced Estimating Manager is required to head up our team of estimators for the replacement of aluminium and uPVC windows and doors including curtain walling in the social housing refurbishment sector. With contract values up to £6.5 million pa, candidates must be able to demonstrate expertise, flair and innovation in the preparation of Tenders, PQQ's and Partnering Submissions for RSL's and Local Authorities. Based at the company's Head Office in Ramsgate, Kent, there will be a requirement for visits to sites and meetings with clients. Offered is a salary appropriate to your experience, together with contributory pension scheme.

Please apply in writing to Ron Twyman, Planning Manager, Piper Double Glazing Limited, 140 Newington Road, Ramsgate, Kent, CT12 6PP or by e-mail to ron@piperwindows.co.uk

PIPER FITS FIRST TIME

PART-TIME BOOKKEEPER
Conversant with duties of Company Secretary

Part-time bookkeeper required for family business and Charitable Foundation. We have an extensive property portfolio in South East England and France, and the Foundation also runs a large community Art Centre in Chatham.

The successful applicant will be a confident, self-motivated and experienced person able to produce forecasts as required, quarterly financial reports, draft year end accounts to enable Accountants to prepare year end Tax Returns, Annual Returns for Companies House and the Charity Commission, payroll, profit and loss, etc. A good working knowledge of Sage accounts software essential. Car driver preferred as you will be required to work in two offices. 24 hours pw over 4 days. Able to commence work February 2010.

Tel: 01634 819618 Fax: 01634 827405 or e.mail carol@halpernpropertiesltd.com

Faversham Residential Home
requires
Care Assistants
to work on rota basis

Also required
Weekend Domestic
9am – 2pm

For further details please telephone 01795 532629 between 10am – 4pm

Bethany Lodge
Require
Weekend Cook
8.00am to 2:00pm
Saturday and Sunday
For more information please call Paul Mills
Tel: **01303 872289**

Thomas MOT Technician
required for local Fuel Injection Garage
We are seeking a qualified technician with proven experience to undertake the following:

MOT Testing
Vehicle Servicing
Diagnostics and subsequent repairs
Clean current driving licence required
Basic IT skills required

Working hours:
Mon- Fri - 8.00 to 5.00
Sat morning 8.00 to 12.00 (1 off per month)
Contact: kathy@thomasautos.co.uk

KOS Public Sector

You can also find the latest jobs online: www.jobsforkent.co.uk

KOSMEDIA | Telephone: 01303 817040 | Fax: 01303 817004 | Email: appointments@kosmedia.co.uk | Online: www.jobsforkent.co.uk

New Year, New Challenge
MidKent College have exciting one year secondment opportunities for the following positions:

Assistant Principal (£63K) negotiable subject to experience.

Head of Faculty (£46K) negotiable subject to experience.

Teacher Coach (£33K) negotiable subject to experience.

MidKent College is a large, successful FE College operating on two main campuses in Medway and Maidstone. Our state of the art, £86 million Medway campus is next door to the Royal School of Military Engineering where the College is training all their soldiers in Construction & Engineering under a 30-year contract.

Our recent OFSTED Inspection described the College as 'good' overall with 'outstanding' capacity to improve. We would like to accelerate our improvement agenda by seconding individuals who will relish the chance to undertake a specific improvement project within the College in areas such as A levels, Skills for Life, Construction, Engineering, Teaching and Learning. Whether you are already in FE, working in a school or Sixth Form College, or working elsewhere in education, this is an ideal opportunity to develop your skills in a supportive environment working alongside some high quality senior leaders.

We particularly welcome applications from underrepresented groups and will meet reasonable living expenses for staff who live outside the area.

The roles above are the indicative levels that we seek secondments at. There is, however, some scope for flexibility for high calibre individuals who can help us on our journey to be "outstanding"!

If you are interested in knowing more please contact our retained consultant Ken Pullan on 07725 128661 or by email ken.pullan@midkent.ac.uk

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE · POSITIVE ABOUT DISABLED PEOPLE · Action for Business College · MidKent College

MidKent College is an equal opportunities employer

Thanet is a beautiful place to work

thanet

Thanet is a great place to live and work. Our historic seaside towns of Ramsgate, Margate and Broadstairs are rich in heritage and opportunity. From the multi-million pound Turner Contemporary Gallery, the fast speed rail link to London, and the popular Westwood Cross shopping centre - this is an exciting time to join Thanet District Council. We are determined to improve the quality of life for local people. We believe that by listening to local people, working in active partnership and by being prepared to do things in an innovative way we can accelerate improvement and best meet the challenges ahead.

Committee Services Manager
Salary £29,895 to £35,007 per annum

Under the guidance of the Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager, this post will be responsible for managing a small team of officers providing committee and scrutiny services, and will contribute to relevant projects, such as the updating of the Council's constitution and the development of a Member learning & development strategy. Applicants need to be educated to degree level and have considerable experience of committee and scrutiny services, including management experience.

Democratic Services and Scrutiny Officer
Salary £26,940 to £30,738 per annum

This post provides an exciting opportunity for someone with an interest in policy review, because roughly half of the time the post holder will support the Council's overview and scrutiny function. That involves bringing together the work of the Overview and Scrutiny Panel investigating local issues, the Cabinet Members that take the decisions and the Directors that advise them. A mature approach to undertaking the work is essential, to ensure the scrutiny role adds value to the Council's achievements. The remainder of the time the post holder will provide more general support to some of the Council's other committees, arranging and attending meetings, and taking minutes. Applicants need to be educated to degree level or equivalent.

The closing date for both positions is: Friday 12 February 2010
Interviews will be held: Tuesday 2 or Wednesday 3 March 2010

For an informal discussion about both positions, please contact Glenn Back on 01843 577187

All posts include generous annual leave, flexible working, a 37-hour week, subsidised bus pass, as well as access to the local government final salary pension scheme.

For an application form and job description for this position, please contact the Human Resources Department on (01843) 577175 (24 hours), e-mail jobs.hrpartnership@dover.gov.uk or, download an application form from www.thanet.gov.uk/jobs. Applications to be returned to: East Kent H R Partnership, Dover District Council, White Cliffs Business Park, Whitfield. Dover CT16 3PJ

Thanet District Council is an equal opportunities employer committed to employing people with disabilities. Any disabled applicant who meets the minimum criteria for the posts will be guaranteed an interview.

The smart way to find your next job JobsforKent.co.uk

TERM TIME TEACHERS

TEACHERS AND COVER SUPERVISORS URGENTLY REQUIRED

MAIDSTONE, ASHFORD, MEDWAY TOWNS, THANET & DARTFORD AREAS

Call and speak with friendly, qualified education staff

Quality Mark

Tel No: **01892 676076**
website: **www.termtimeteachers.co.uk**
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Teachers Needed

Primary, Secondary and SEN.

Capita Education Resourcing is the leading provider of educational staff throughout the UK.

Our dedicated and friendly Kent team can provide you with:

- ✔ Daily/weekly/termly supply opportunities
- ✔ Excellent rates of pay – paid weekly
- ✔ Free in-service training and CPD assessment
- ✔ Free use of resource centre
- ✔ An out-of-hours service

Even if you can only spare one day a week we would love to hear from you.

To find out more information and to register with us, please call us free on:
0800 731 6871
or email
enquiry.ers@capita.co.uk

CAPITA EDUCATION RESOURCING (Agy)

Committed to equal opportunities

Bradstow School

DEPUTY HOUSE MANAGER
CHILDCARE
£22,985 - £25,472 per annum - 41 hours per week (including split shifts & weekends) – Term time only

To assist the House Manager in organising and managing a group of staff working in a residential team. To arrange and manage the care of the children and young adults in that team on shift. To manage the administration of the team. To take a lead role in the absence of the House Manager.

HOUSEPARENT
CHILDCARE
£19,621- £22,221 per annum - 41 hours per week (including split shifts & weekends) – Term time only

Working as part of the childcare team, this role involves providing care and support to students mornings, evenings and weekends.

TEAM SUPPORT WORKERS
CHILDCARE
£13,874 plus 10% per annum - 41 hours per week (including weekends) – Term time only & £11,166 plus 10% per annum - 33 hours per week, (including weekends) – Term time only & £4,994 - 15 hours per week, (weekends only) – Term time only

Working as part of the childcare team, these roles involve providing care and support to students mornings, evenings and weekends.

INDIVIDUAL SUPPORT WORKERS
CHILDCARE
£10,079 plus 10% per annum - 41 hours per week (including weekends) – Term time only

Working as part of the childcare team, these roles involve providing care and support to students mornings, evenings and weekends.

LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANTS
EDUCATION
The successful applicants will be responsible for assisting teachers in the school and have a particular responsibility towards one teaching group.

TEAM SUPPORT WORKER EDUCATION
£12,689 per annum - 37½ hours per week
7:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Mon-Fri – Term time only

INDIVIDUAL LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANT
£10,320 per annum - 34 hours per week,
9:00 a.m. - 4:15 p.m. Mon-Fri – Term time only

For all Term Time Only posts, there will also be up to a maximum of two weeks for the school's respite care provision if required, for which extra payment would be paid. For all posts we look for candidates who are mature, practical, flexible and responsible with a patient and caring attitude to deal sensitively with vulnerable children.

For an application form and information pack please call 01843 608727 (24 hour recruitment answer machine), or email personnel@bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk

Please note that CV's will not be considered.
Applications should be received no later than 12 noon, Friday 22nd January 2010.

www.bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk

Valence School

KEYWORKER

FULL TIME – Working Term Time Only

This post involves shift work and to have responsibility for and work to promote all aspects of personal development and individual progress for a group of Key Students.
Kent Scheme Band 5
£16,793 to £18,471 full time equivalent

STUDENT SUPPORT ASSISTANT

Full Time and Part Time hours available, Term Time Only.

This post involves shift work in supporting students with all their needs throughout their waking day, both within and outside the classroom.
Kent Scheme Band 3 (pro-rata)
£14,099 to £15,984 full time equivalent

WAKING NIGHT STUDENT SUPPORT ASSISTANT

Shifts are 10 p.m. until 8 a.m. Term Time Only.

This post involves working waking nights, and supporting students with their personal care needs over the night. There are a number of nights available.
Kent Scheme Band 3 (pro-rata)
£14,099 - £15,984 full time equivalent plus unsocial hours allowance

Valence School is a Kent County Council all age residential school for children and young people with physical disabilities, complex medical needs and associated learning and communication difficulties.

Valence School is committed to safeguarding and promoting every student's welfare. We expect all staff to share our commitment. The successful applicants will require an enhanced Criminal Records Bureau Check.

For further information and an application form, please contact Staff Services Department. Please note the closing date for applications is Friday 22nd January 2010 at 4pm.
Valence School, Westerham, Kent TN16 1QN
Tel:- 07887 727182 Fax: 01959-565046
e-mail: vacancies@valence.kent.sch.uk

To advertise in this section
01303 817040

Medway Council
Serving You

All Saints

A Sure Start Children's Centre
Magpie Hall Road, Chatham ME4 5AZ

Nursery Officer **Ref: CA0925L**

Grade D1 Salary: £12,787 - £16,440 per annum
Hours: 37 hours per week, working a shift pattern

Our full daycare nursery is looking for another member of staff to join its busy team, working with babies and children under the age of three years. If you have an early years qualification, (minimum level 2), post qualifying experience and a passion for providing the highest quality care and education for young children then we would like to hear from you.

Café Worker **Ref: CA0926L**

(maternity cover for approximately 6-9 months)
Grade D1 Salary: £12,787 - £16,440 per annum
Hours: 37 hours per week

As café worker you will be involved with the day-to-day running of the café including preparing and cooking food, menu planning and preparing meals for children in our full daycare nursery as well as assisting in making the community café a focus for our community. You will be enthusiastic, passionate about food and nutrition, confident, innovative and customer focused with experience of a fast moving catering environment.

Any offer of employment for these posts will be subject to a Criminal Records Bureau Enhanced Disclosure.

For further information or an informal discussion please contact the centre on 01634 338833.

Closing date for both posts: Friday, 29 January 2010

For an application pack or to apply visit www.medway.gov.uk
or phone 01634 333333 Mon to Fri 8am – 8pm, Sat 9am – 1pm or **01634 332843**
24-hour answerphone. **Alternatively email: jobs@medway.gov.uk** quoting the reference.

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POSITIVE ABOUT DISABLED PEOPLE

Accommodation Manager

Churchill House is a private school offering English courses to international students throughout the year in Ramsgate plus summer junior courses at centres throughout the UK.

Under the direction of the Accommodation Manager the provision of family homestay accommodation is an integral part of all courses. Responsibilities include selection and management of families, student placement, planning, staffing, quality management.

The successful candidate will have skills in these specific areas, a proven management record, an ability to excel under extreme pressure and excellent communication skills. Self motivation and a passion for maximising customer satisfaction are fundamental requirements and will be rewarded with a salary commensurate with relevant experience.

Full CV and current salary to Churchill House, Ramsgate, CT11 9EQ Deborah.Cook@churchillhouse.co.uk

To advertise in this section

01303 817040

THE SPENCER WING

The Spencer Wing is the independently owned and managed 22 bed private hospital situated on the QEQM Hospital site. We also have a 5 bed unit at the William Harvey Hospital in Ashford. The continuing growth of our business has resulted in a vacancy for the following staff:

ENDOSCOPY SISTER – (Margate)
25 hrs per week
Previous applicants for the above post need not apply.

Dual Trained Nurse (Margate)
30 hrs per week

Paediatric Nurses (Margate/Ashford)
Flexi Bank

To discuss these opportunities or to arrange an informal visit, please contact:
Vicky Smith or Mary Guarnieri - 01843 234555 Ext: 62207 (Margate)
Debbie Burr – 01233 616202 (Ashford)

For job description and application form please contact:
Jo Edwards
East Kent Medical Services Ltd
The Spencer Wing, QEQM Hospital, Ramsgate Road, Margate, Kent CT9 4BG
Telephone: 01843 234556 Fax: 01843 296333
E-mail: mandy.oliver@thespencerwing.com

QMS ISO 9002 REGISTERED FIRM

The Spencer Wing is an equal opportunity employer
These positions are subject to a Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure check

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

TMS the Malling school

Beech Road, East Malling, Kent, ME19 6DH 01732 840995

MPS Teacher + SEN 1

Enthusiastic, innovative teacher to join dedicated, supportive staff of Tydeman Centre within mainstream secondary school.

Ability to teach variety of subjects to small groups with dyslexia, speech & language, autistic spectrum disorders. To deliver individual tutorial programme to small tutor group.

Primary or Secondary experience; interest in Maths, Science or ASDAN advantage. Specialist training offered.

Tydeman Centre 'outstanding' - OFSTED April 2009

Contact Ann Noble to visit.

Further details / forms from career opportunities link on website: www.themallingschool.kent.sch.uk

Applications to Elaine Greenwood
elaine.greenwood@mhfederation.co.uk
by **Friday 29 January 2010**

NORTHFLEET SCHOOL FOR GIRLS
Hall Road, Northfleet, Kent DA11 8AQ
Tel: 0844 477 2525 Fax: 01474 335058

We are a highly successful and ambitious school. As part of the Building Schools for the Future and transforming learning initiative our school has undergone dramatic change. Our staff needs reflect that and to ensure that our students receive the best support we are currently seeking to employ:

EXAMINATIONS SECRETARY
£7,498 to £8,425 p.a. 20 hours per week
Term time plus support for examination results
Salary Scale Kent Scheme Grade 5 £16,440 to £18,471 full time equivalent

The post holder will support the smooth running of all aspects of all in school examinations and the accurate recording of pupil attainment for statutory and in-school assessments. Must be computer literate with a good knowledge of SIMS and Microsoft packages and an ability to communicate and co-operate effectively at all levels, with tact and diplomacy.

ACADEMIC COACH in MATHEMATICS
£13,872 to £15,586 p.a. 37 hours per week
Term time only (39 weeks per year) 8.15 a.m. start
Salary Scale Kent Scheme Grade 5 £16,440 to £18,471 full time equivalent

To work with the more able individuals and groups of students to motivate and ensure adequate challenge, in order that students meet their targets and that any barriers to learning are overcome. You will work as part of a domain focused curriculum team, and be educated to at least A Level standard in mathematics.

LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANT
£11,391 to £11,968 p.a. 31.25 hours per week
Term time only (39 weeks per year) 8.30 a.m. to 3.15 p.m.
Salary Scale Kent Scheme Grade 4 £15,984 to £16,793

Learning Support Assistant to work with students who have identified social and emotional behavioural needs . The ideal candidate will have experience of working with adolescents or within a school, possibly with ASD or similar diagnosis, and be able to provide evidence of good levels of literacy and numeracy.

All positions require a flexible approach to working, the ability to work as part of a team as well as under your own initiative and good communication skills at all levels are essential. Appointment will be subject to full enhanced CRB check.

Full job descriptions available on request. To apply please submit a full C.V. to Personnel Administrator at Northfleet School for Girls, Hall Road, Northfleet, Kent DA11 8AQ Tel: 0844 477 2525 or e:mail personnel@northfleetgirls.kent.sch.uk

Closing date for applications : 31 January 2010

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PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC PATH ORDER
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990, SECTION 257
AND PARAGRAPH 1 OF SCHEDULE 14

TUNBRIDGE WELLS BOROUGH COUNCIL

THE TUNBRIDGE WELLS BOROUGH COUNCIL (PUBLIC FOOTPATHS WBX17 MOUNT PLEASANT ROAD TO CLANRICARDE ROAD AND WBX18 CHURCH ROAD TO WBX17) (NO 1) PUBLIC PATH STOPPING UP ORDER 2010

The above order was made on 13th January 2010. The effect of the order will be to stop up the public footpaths running from Mount Pleasant Road to Clanricarde Road (WBX17) and from Church Road to path WBX17 (WBX18) as shown on the order map.

A copy of the order and order map may be seen free of charge at Tunbridge Wells Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN1 2AB between the hours of 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday (except Thursday 9am to 6.30pm) or 10am and 4pm on Saturday. Copies of the order and map may be obtained there free of charge.

Any representation about or objection to the order may be sent or delivered in writing addressed to the Head of Planning Services, Tunbridge Wells Borough Council, Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN1 1 RS not later than 17th February 2010. Please state grounds on which it is made.

If no such representations or objections are duly made, or if any so made are withdrawn, Tunbridge Wells Borough Council may itself confirm the order as an unopposed order. If the order is sent to the Secretary of State for the Environment, Food and Regional Affairs for confirmation any representations or objections which have not been withdrawn will be sent with the order.

Paul Cummins, Legal Services Manager,
Tunbridge Wells Borough Council,
Town Hall, Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN1 1RS.

Tunbridge Wells Borough Council

Dated : 16th January 2010

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Highways – District of Ashford

VARIOUS ROADS, ASHFORD (WAITING RESTRICTIONS) ORDER 2010 (STREET PARKING PLACES) ORDER 2010. ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

Notice is hereby given that Kent County Council proposes to make an Order under Sections 1, 2. 32, 35 and 124 and Parts III and IV of Schedule 9 under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the effect of which will be to introduce a Residents Parking Zone with Time Limited Parking Bays in Victoria Crescent and Time Limited Parking Bays only in Bowens Field (Main Road), Jemmett Road (part) and Victoria Road, Ashford.

A copy of the proposed Orders, an explanatory statement and a map showing the roads affected may be inspected during normal office hours at the Kent County Council Offices, Invicta House, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX, Ashford Borough Council Offices, Tannery Lane, Ashford, Kent, TN23 1PL.

Anyone wishing to support, or object to this proposal should write to Diane Bourne, Jacobs Engineering UK Ltd, Miller House, Lower Stone Street, Maidstone, Kent, ME15 6GB quoting the name of the Order and reference No "B501400" and stating their reasons, by not later than Monday 8th February 2010.

PILGRIMS LANE, CHILHAM (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of the installation of a new gas supply, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Pilgrims Lane, Chilham outside 'The Moorings', on or after 18 January 2010. This is for an estimated period of 3 days, or until the works are complete.

There is no through access at 'The Moorings'.
The alternative route for through traffic will be via A28 Canterbury Road and either Bowerland Lane or Shalmsford Road.

OAKS ROAD, TENTERDEN (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because footway improvements works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on Oaks Road, Tenterden from junction with Elmfield to its junction with East Cross in a West to East direction on the northern side on or after 18 January 2010 for an estimated period of seven days or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Beacon Oak Road, Ashford Road and East Cross

This order will come into force on Monday 18 January 2010, will be in operation when the appropriate signs are erected, and will remain valid for a maximum period of eighteen months. The order will allow the above mentioned restrictions to be implemented as and when required for works of similar nature at any time for the duration of the order.

COOMBE LANE, TENTERDEN (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because footway improvements works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Coombe Lane, Tenterden for the full length on 18 January 2010 for an estimated period of seven days or until such works are complete.

There is no alternative route available.

This order will come into force on Monday 18 January 2010, will be in operation when the appropriate signs are erected, and will remain valid for a maximum period of eighteen months. The order will allow the above mentioned restrictions to be implemented as and when required for works of a similar nature at any time for the duration of the order.

SHALMSFORD ROAD, CHILHAM (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of essential carriageway repairs, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on Shalmsford Road, Chilham between the junctions with the A28 Canterbury Road and Pilgrims Lane, on or after 6 February 2010 for an estimated period of 1 day or until the works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via A28 Canterbury Road, Mulberry Hill, Cobbs Hill, Lower Lees Road and Shalmsford Road.

POUND LANE, BRABOURNE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of carriageway repairs and strengthening, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on Pound Lane, Brabourne, between the junction with Canterbury Road and 'Wren Cottage,' on or after 1 February 2010, for an estimated period of up to 5 days or until the works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Canterbury Road, Plain Road and Pound Lane.

BETHERSDEN ROAD, SMARDEN (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of carriageway strengthening and resurfacing, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on Bethersden Road, Smarden, between the junction with Romden Road and Blinks Farm, on or after 1 February 2010, for an estimated period of up to 3 days or until the works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Bethersden Road, Pot Kiln Lane, High Halden Road, Wagstaff Lane, Kelsham Lane and Luckhurst Lane.

HIGHWAYS – District of Canterbury

ANVIL GREEN ROAD, WALTHAM (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of BT pole and cable replacement works, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Anvil Green Road, Waltham between Penny Pot Lane and Temple Field, on or after 1 February 2010. This is for an estimated period of 5 days or until the works are complete. The works will be carried out between the hours 9.30 am and 3.30 pm, with the road re-opened outside these hours.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Richdore Road, Kake Street and Waltham Road.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Dartford

OAKFIELD LANE & CEDAR ROAD, DARTFORD (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Oakfield Lane and Cedar Road as noted in schedule 1.

The Order will become effective on 18th January 2010, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last as noted in schedule 1.

These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: as noted in the schedule.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate gas and water mains replacement and services.

Schedule 1

Extent: Between its junctions with Hawley Road and Hazel Road
Date: 18th January 2010 for 6 weeks
Diversion: Dartford Town Centre Bound Traffic - Lowfield Street, Princes Road, Heath Lane and Oakfield Lane

Road Name: Oakfield Lane
Extent: Between its junctions with Hawley Road and Hazel Road
Date: 18th January 2010 for 6 weeks
Diversion: Traffic going East Bound - Hawley Road, Princes Road, Heath Lane and Oakfield Lane

Road Name: Cedar Road
Extent: Oakfield Road for approx 100m
Date: 18th January 2010 for 6 weeks
Diversion: Elm Road and Hazel Road

HIGHWAYS - District of Sevenoaks

PEASE HILL, ASH CUM RIDLEY (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Pease Hill, Ash Cum Ridley outside Pease Hill Cottage.

The Order will become effective on 18th January 2010, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 3 days. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the restriction above will be via:

NORTH – Hartley Bottom Road, Redhill Road, Ash Road/The Street

SOUTH – Malthouse Road, Green Lane and South Ash Road.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate carriageway permanent reinstatement works

MUSSENDEN LANE, HORTON KIRBY (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Mussenden Lane, Horton Kirby adjacent to Elmside and Boyneswood properties.

The Order will become effective on 18th January 2010, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 14 days. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the route described above will be via: Mussenden Lane, Lombard Street and School Lane.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate installation of a new electricity supply

ST JULIANS ROAD, SEAL (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on St Julians Road, Seal between its junctions with A225 River Hill/Tonbridge Road to Fawke Green Road.

The Order will become effective on 1st February 2010, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 14 days. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Tonbridge Road, High Street, Seal Hollow Road, Blackhall Lane and Park Lane.

Tonbridge Road, River Hill, London Road, Bank lane, Carters Hill and Fawke Wood Road

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate tree works

HIGHWAYS - District of Swale

CLOCKHOUSE LANE, BOUGHTON UNDER BLEAN (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of track maintenance on behalf of Network Rail, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Clockhouse Lane, Boughton under Blean, at Clock House Level Crossing, on or after 24 January 2010. This is for an estimated period of 1 day, between the hours of 8.00 am and 4.00 pm, or until the works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Clockhouse Lane, Selling Road and Brenley Lane.

HIGHWAYS - District of Thanet

CROW HILL, BROADSTAIRS (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of essential carriageway repairs, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Crow Hill, Broadstairs, between the junctions with Claire Court and Stone Road, on or after 18 January 2010. This is for an estimated period of 1 day or until the works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Kings Avenue, Knights Avenue and Stone Road.

VARIOUS ROADS, RAMSGATE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of gas mains replacement, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on Various Roads, Ramsgate, as shown in the Schedule to this Order, on or after 1 February 2010 for an estimated period of 18 weeks or until the works are complete. Each of the roads will be shut at its junction with Margate Road.

The alternative route for through traffic will be as shown in the schedule.

Road Name: Coleman Crescent
Extent: At its north junction with Margate Road
Dates: 1 February 2010 for up to 6 weeks
Diversion: Margate Road

Road Name: Allenby Road
Extent: At its junction with Margate Road
Dates: 15 March 2010 for up to 10 weeks
Diversion: Margate Road and Newington Road

Road Name: Winifred Avenue
Extent: At its junction with Margate Road
Dates: 24 May 2010 for up to 2 weeks
Diversion: Margate Road and Allenby Road

KING STREET AND NEW STREET, MARGATE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of gas mains replacement, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on King Street and New Street, Margate, as shown in the Schedule to this Order, on or after 1 February 2010, for an estimated period of 14 weeks or until the works are complete.

The alternative routes for through traffic and additional details will be as shown in the Schedule.

Road Name: King Street, Margate
Extent: Between the junctions of Broad Street and The Parade
Dates: 1 February 2010 for up to 4 weeks
Diversion: Hawley Street, Cecil Square, Queen Street, Marine Gardens, Marine Drive and The Parade

Other Details: The One-way Traffic Order in respect of King Street will be suspended between Broad Street and The Parade to allow access via The Parade, when advised locally

The One-way Traffic Order in respect of 'The Piazza' will be suspended to allow traffic to allow to exit from The Piazza, when advised locally

Road Name: New Street, Margate
Extent: Between the junctions with High Street and Hawley Street
Dates: 1 March 2010 for up to 10 weeks
Diversion: Westbound via Hawley Street, King Street, The Parade, Market Street and High Street Eastbound via High Street, Queen Street, Cecil Square, Hawley Street and New Street

Other details: When works are being carried out at the junction of Hawley Street, there will be a temporary one way traffic Order prohibiting eastbound traffic between the junctions of New Cross Street and Hawley Street, as advised locally. Eastbound traffic will be diverted via New Cross Street, Lombard Street and Hawley Street.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Tonbridge & Malling

REDWELL LANE, IGHTHAM (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Redwell Lane, Ightham outside of Yew Tree Cottage on or after Monday 1st February 2010 for a period of up to
9 days or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the restriction described above is via Redwell Lane, Common Road, Sandy Lane, Ismays Road, Redwell Lane and vice versa.

EDF Energy apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary to install a new electrical supply. Should you require any further information regarding these works, their contact is David Creasey on 01732 783985.

LUNSFORD LANE, EAST MALLING & LARKFIELD (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Lunsford Lane from number 147 to the north side of the M20 bridge on or after Monday 1st February 2010 for a period of up to 1 week or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the restriction described above is via Kingfisher Road, New Hythe Lane, Leybourne Way and Gighill Road.

Kent Highway Services apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works, which are necessary for essential major drainage works. Should you require any further information the Kent Highway Services contact is Jamie Finch on 08458 247 800.

CHURCH LANE, TROTTISCLIFFE (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Norice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Church Lane, Trottiscliffe between School Lane and The Street on or after Monday 1st February 2010 between 09:00hrs and 15:00hrs for a period of up to 1 week or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the restriction described above is via School Lane and The Street and vice versa.

Kent Highway Services apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works, which are necessary for major drainage repairs. Should you require any further information the Kent Highway Services contact is Jamie Finch
on 08458 247 800.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Tunbridge Wells

BULLINGSTONE LANE, SPELDHURST (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Bullingstone Lane, Speldhurst from the junction of Bullingstone Lane to Bullingstone Cottages on or after Monday 19th January 2010 for up to 1 week until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the restriction described above is via Bullingstone Lane, Penshurst Road, Speldhurst Road, Langton Road, and vice versa.

Kent Highway Services apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works, which are necessary to carry out essential drainage works. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is Jamie Finch on 08458 247 800.

VARIOUS ROADS IN THE BOROUGH OF TUNBRIDGE WELLS (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on the routes described in the Schedule.

The alternative routes as described will be noted in the schedule. Access will be maintained up to the points of closure. The Order will become effective on Monday 18th January 2010, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

Schedule

Road Name: A264 Langton Road, Rusthall
Extent: The Hare PH crossroads
Dates: Start: 20th January 2010
End: 22nd January 2010
Diversion: A264 Bishops Down, A264 Mount Ephraim, A26 St John's Road, A26 London Road, B2176 Bidborough Ridge, Penshurst Road, Rogues Hill, B2188 Penshurst High Street, Fordcombe Road, New Road, Saints Hill, Spring Hill, Fordcombe Road, A264 Ashurst Road and A264 Langton Road

For further information, please contact Kent Highway Services, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Kent Highway Services

MOBILE CAFETERIA SERVICES IN PARKS

The Borough Council invites quotations for the PROVISION OF Mobile Cafeteria Services in Parks selling hot and cold beverages, ice-cream, snacks etc. at one or more separate established sites, with the estimated contract values of: HAYSDEN COUNTRY PARK (TONBRIDGE) £5k, TONBRIDGE CASTLE GROUNDS £10k, and LEYBOURNE LAKES COUNTRY PARK £5k for a three year period commencing 1st April 2010.

Further details will be sent by contacting Leisure Services, Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council, Gibson Building, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent ME19 4LZ, or by telephoning 01732 876166 or Emailing leisure.services@tmbc.gov.uk quoting Reference Number LS/KM0110. All contractors must complete a questionnaire and provide supporting documentation.

All quotations and other information must be returned in the approved form by no later than **12 noon on Friday 5 February 2010.**

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949 AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004
APPROVED PREMISES FOR CIVIL MARRIAGES & CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS

An application has been made to Kent County Council to grant a renewal of an approval for the following premises to act as a venue for the solemnisation of civil marriages and civil partnerships:-

Name of Premises: **Woodlands Manor Golf Club, Tinkerpot Lane, Woodlands, Otford**
Applicant: **Ken Thornton**

The application and plan of the premises may be inspected at the address below during normal office hours. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the renewal of the grant of approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this newspaper. Objections should be sent to the address below.

Giles Adey
Head of Registration
Regulatory Services
First Floor, Invicta House
Maidstone
Kent, ME14 1XX

Kent County Council

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Town and Country Planning Acts

The Council is required to give notice of the following applications

09/04064/LBC The Coach House Franks Hollow Road, Bidborough
- Listed Building Consent: Conversion of attached single garage to form further habitable accommodation; additional window; replace roof and repairs; retain window recently installed on south side of double garage (LB)

09/04050/FUL Elmhurst Dundle Road, Brenchley
- Extension of residential curtilage (LB)

09/03911/LBCDEM Burgess Hill Farm And Barn Pembury Road, Capel
- Listed Building Consent: Demolition of farmhouse and barn (LB)

09/04071/FUL Brook Farm Five Oak Green Road, Capel
- Renewal - Erection of motorcycle showroom and workshops with ancillary accommodation, storage and vehicle sales (TW/06/03364 refers) for Lindbrook Ltd (LB) (DEVPLN)

09/03975/HOUSE 3 Earls Road Royal Tunbridge Wells, Culverden
- Single-storey rear extension, raised terrace and external alterations (CA)

09/04063/LBC Solomons Rye Road, Hawkhurst
- Listed Building Consent - Demolition of existing two-storey rear extension and replacement with ground and first floor extension. In addition to TW/08/02123/LBC, change in position of wc from under the stairs to within the utility room, extend the garden retaining wall and increase height of the ceiling over the shower (LB)

09/03992/HOUSE 36 Brewer Street Lamberhurst, Lamberhurst
- Conversion of existing garage into games room with first floor extension over (CA)

09/03984/HOUSE 41 High Street Pembury, Pembury
- Two-storey side extension (CA)

09/04040/FUL 10 Lower Green Road Royal Tunbridge Wells, Rusthall
- Change of use of one room in residential dwelling from A1 (shop) to residential (CA)

09/04049/FUL Sissinghurst Castle Biddenden Road, Sissinghurst C/O Cranbrook Parish
- New tool store within existing gardeners' compound (LB)

10/00007/FUL Willow Tree Cottage Franks Hollow Road, Speldhurst
- Change of use from agricultural to residential curtilage (PROW)

(DEVPLN) Departure from the Development Plan (PROW) Affecting A Public Right of Way (CA) Affecting a Conservation Area (LB) Affecting a Listed Building (MAJOR) Major Applications (MAST) Mast Applications (EIA) Applications Accompanied by an EIA Statement.

You may view these applications on our website (www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk), at the The Old Fire Station, Stone Street, Cranbrook or at Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells. We accept comments online, by email to planningcomments@tunbridgewells.gov.uk or in writing to the address below. Comments should be made within 21 days from the date of this notice, although we may accept them after this date.

You should quote the reference and be aware that we make all comments available for inspection, placing them on the file and publishing them on the internet. We do not publish signatures, telephone numbers or email addresses on the internet.

Jim Kehoe
Head of Planning Services
Town Hall Royal Tunbridge Wells TN1 1RS

Dated: 16 January 2010

Tunbridge Wells Borough Council

Road Name: A264 Langton Road, Tunbridge Wells
Extent: (The Spa Roundabout) From Major York's Road to Rusthall Road.
Dates: Start: 22nd January 2010 End: 29th January 2010
Diversion: A264 Bishops Down, A264 Mount Ephraim, A26 St John's Road, A26 London Road, B2176 Bidborough Ridge, Penshurst Road, Rogues Hill, B2188 Penshurst High Street, Fordcombe Road, New Road, Saints Hill, Spring Hill, Fordcombe Road, A264 Ashurst Road and A264 Langton Road

Road Name: Vauxhall Lane, Southborough
Extent: A26 to Honnington Farm
Dates: Start: 25th January 2010 End: 27th January 2010
Diversion: Vauxhall Lane, A2014 Pembury Road, A26 Quarry Hill Road and A26 London Road

Road Name: A268 Queen Street, Sandhurst
Extent: Megrims Hill to Marsh Quarter Lane
Dates: Start: 27th January 2010 End: 2nd February 2010
Diversion: A268 Megrims Hill, A268 Rye Road, A229 Cranbrook Road, Hawkhurst Road, Hartley Road, Angley Road, A262 The Street, Sissinghurst Road, Biddenden High Street, A262 Tenterden Road, Biddenden Road, A28 Silver Hill, A28 Tenterden Road, Tenterden High Street, Hastings Road, A268 Link Hill

Road Name: Speldhurst Road, Southborough, Tunbridge Wells
Extent: From A26 London Road to Lady's Gift Road
Dates: Start: 29th January 2010 End: 4th February 2010
Diversion: A26 St John's Road, A264 Mount Ephraim, A264 Bishops Down, A264 Langton Road, The Green, Speldhurst Road, Langton Road, Speldhurst Hill, Etherington Hill and Speldhurst Road

Road Name: Sherenden Road, Capel
Extent: Lilley Farm to Hartlake Road
Dates: Start: 2nd February 2010 End: 6th February 2010
Diversion: Hartlake Road and B2017 Five Oak Green Road

Road Name: Tutsham Way, Paddock Wood
Extent: Whole Length
Dates: Start: 8th February 2010 End: 11th February 2010
Diversion: Ringden Avenue, B2160 Maidstone Road, Mount Pleasant and Cogate Road

Road Name: Bullion Close, Paddock Wood
Extent: Whole Length
Dates: Start: 11th February 2010 End 12th February 2010
Diversion: N/A Cul-de-sac

Road Name: Mercers Close, Paddock Wood
Extent: Whole Length
Dates: Start: 11th February 2010 End 12th February 2010
Diversion: N/A Cul-de-sac

Road Name: Alliance Way, Paddock Wood
Extent: Whole Length
Dates: Start: 11th February 2010 End 12th February 2010
Diversion: N/A Cul-de-sac

Road Name: Northdown Close, Paddock Wood
Extent: Whole Length
Dates: Start: 12th February 2010 End 15th February 2010
Diversion: N/A Cul-de-sac

Road Name: Keyworth Close, Paddock Wood
Extent: Whole Length
Dates: Start: 12th February 2010 End 15th February 2010
Diversion: N/A Cul-de-sac

Road Name: Goldings, Paddock Wood
Extent: Whole Length
Dates: Start: 15th February 2010 End 16th February 2010
Diversion: N/A Cul-de-sac

Road Name: Lansdowne Road, Tunbridge Wells
Extent: Whole Length
Dates: Start: 15th February 2010 End 18th February 2010
Diversion: Garden Road, Camden Road Calverley Road and Carrs Corner Roundabout

Road Name: Woodlands, Paddock Wood
Extent: Whole Length
Dates: Start: 16th February 2010 End 17th February 2010
Diversion: N/A Cul-de-sac

Road Name: Rope Walk, Cranbrook
Extent: Whole Length
Dates: Start: 17th February 2010 End 19th February 2010
Diversion: N/A Cul-de-sac

Road Name: Hendley Drive, Cranbrook
Extent: Whole Length
Dates: Start: 18th February 2010 End 23rd February 2010
Diversion: N/A Cul-de-sac

Road Name: Hendley Terrace, Cranbrook
Extent: Whole Length
Dates: Start: 18th February 2010 End 23rd February 2010
Diversion: N/A Cul-de-sac

Road Name: Woodbury Park Road, Tunbridge Wells
Extent: Whole Length
Dates: Start: 19th February 2010 End 26th February 2010
Diversion: Dunstan Road, Queens Road and A26 St John's Road

Road Name: Whites Lane, Hawkhurst
Extent: Whole Length
Dates: Start: 26th February 2010 End 2nd March 2010
Diversion: Water Lane, A268 Rye Road, A299 Cranbrook Road, Ockley Road and Queens Road

Road Name: Cranbrook High Street
Extent: Carriers Rd junction
Dates: Start: 18th March 2010 End 22nd March 2010
Diversion: Stone Street, Waterloo Road, A229 Angley Road, Cranbrook High Street

Road Name: Sandrock Road, Tunbridge Wells
Extent: Approaches to Pelican crossing
Dates: Start: 19th March 2010 End 23rd March 2010
Diversion: Sandrock Road, A264 Pembury Road, Calverley Park Gardens, Carrs corner Roundabout, Calverley Road, Camden Road and Garden Road

The purpose of the Order is to facilitate carriageway resurfacing works to be undertaken by Kent Highway Services.

Please Note: Access will be maintained for all residents, businesses and their visitors as much as possible during the works.

For further information or comment please call Tony Carreck of Kent Highway Services on 08458 247 800.

For further information, please contact Kent Highway Services, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Kent Highway Services

To advertise in this section
01303 817040

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACTS – NOTICES OF APPLICATIONS

The following applications have been submitted to the Council and are being advertised for the reason(s) given in each case.

TM/09/02519/FL – Land At Whitegate Field Borough Green Road Wrotham Sevenoaks Kent – Wrotham School are applying for construction of a multipurpose artificial sports pitch with 8 raised lighting columns and pedestrian access. Reason: DEPART GPI

TM/09/01634/FL – Land Rear Of 5 To 37a Tolsey Mead Borough Green Sevenoaks Kent – Mr Arturo Cowling is applying for change of use on small strip of land to rear of properties 5-37a from agricultural to residential garden use (Retrospective). Reason: PROW

TM/09/03113/FLX – Bunyards Farm London Road Allington Maidstone Kent ME16 0LP – Kingsway Associates are applying for renewal of planning permission TM/04/02846/FL for 9 hole par three golf course, practice range, administration building and car parking. Reason: GPI

TM/09/03134/FL – Fairseat Lodge Vigo Road Fairseat Sevenoaks Kent TN15 7LU – Mr Richards is applying for demolition of outbuilding to rear and erection of triple bay open cart shed (one bay with doors) style garage, secure store and open log store. Reason: CA HH

Reasons for the case being publicised:

CA Application is within/affects a Conservation Area
PROW Application affects a Public Right of Way
DEPART Application does not accord with the Development Plan
GPI Application is of general Public Interest
HH Householder application - As this is a householder application, in the event of an appeal against a refusal of planning permission, which is to be dealt with on the basis of representations in writing, any representations made about this application will be sent to the Secretary of State, and there will be no further opportunity to comment at appeal stage.

These applications are displayed on our website www.tmbc.gov.uk – click on the button "Online Planning" (then View Existing Applications and select Public Access). You can submit your comments by emailing to planning.applications@tmbc.gov.uk (please quote the application number by the date set out below). Please note that we will publish a copy of any representations received on the Council's website, including your name and address.

Copies of applications listed may be seen during office hours (8.30 am and 5.00 pm Monday to Friday). Any applications within Hadlow, Hildenborough and Tonbridge are available at Tonbridge Castle, Tonbridge. Other applications are available at the office of the Director of Planning, Transport & Leisure, Gibson Building, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4LZ. Any representations should be made in writing quoting the application number by 7 February 2010.

David Hughes

Chief Executive

17 January 2010

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

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By **STEVE LOADER**

Get a grip after the freeze

WHILE Kent was gripped by the big freeze, many drivers wondered where they could get extra grip.

So interest in new and used 4x4s is growing again after being clobbered by the recession, especially as would-be buyers find how cheap it can be to acquire serious go-anywhere performance.

Even before the snow and ice, experts at HPI Valuations warned that these beasts were seriously undervalued and buyers should move fast.

Spokesman Martin Keighley said: "The infamous 'Chelsea Tractor' has been slated by the green lobby over the last 12 months, and stands accused of destroying the planet.

"However, prior to this demonisation, the 4x4 provided a reliable and bold-looking alternative to the people carrier, catering for both families and the style-conscious alike.

"With greener versions now available, petrol models and other, more polluting models are getting left behind because environmentally conscious car-buyers can now purchase a 4x4 without it weighing on their conscience.

"As a result, demand for this sector is rising along with values, so buyers looking to own one shouldn't leave it long."

Of the serious players, Keighley rates the Land Rover Discovery 4, Mercedes-Benz M-Class and Volkswagen Touareg best for value and ability, but access to the rugged club can be much cheaper and here are some tips:

Go diesel if possible, but consider petrol with an LPG (liquid petroleum gas) conversion, or buying a petrol and spending £1,500-2,000 on an LPG conversion; LPG is half the price of petrol and has much lower emissions.

Proper 4x4s are designed for knocks, but check the underside and suspension for damage.

A tow bar is handy, but could signal higher wear on rear-end mechanicals from pulling a big caravan, boat or trailer.

Japanese is best: Mitsubishi Shoguns, Land Cruisers, Isuzu Troopers and Nissan Patrols are bulletproof if serviced regularly.

Go for kit. A 'fully-loaded' model with leather, air-con, and electric everything, will cost only slightly more – nothing like the extra it cost originally.

For three grand or even less, consider the following rough and tough options:

- **TOYOTA LAND CRUISER** (mid-late 1990s) – Diesel is best and the most indestructible, but the LC is a tank to drive.
- **MITSUBISHI SHOGUN** (1984-2000) – rivalled the Range Rover, but added reliability. Décor is more 'bordello' than 'Englishman's club' though.
- **RANGE ROVER** – three grand buys a smart late 90s/00s RR with diesel or petrol/LPG. Luxury and swank value outweighs flakey reliability.
- **KIA SORENTO** (2003-present) – the badge has no street cred, but you can have a late plate 4x4 for a small outlay.
- **NISSAN TERRANO** (1993-2006) – no looker and street cred is low, but it is a smaller yet genuine off-roader. Look out for even cheaper Ford Maverick clones on early plates.
- **ISUZU TROOPER** (up to 2003)/Vauxhall Monterey – not the most refined on road, but dependable. Three grand buys a decent diesel with all the gear.

TOUGH ENOUGH: Nissan Patrol is used for UN duties around the world

- **JEEP CHEROKEE** (1993-2001) – interior is rubbish and it is agricultural, but it is tough and looks the part and you get lots for your money. Only two engines worth considering: the 4.0 petrol – you will hurry to convert this to LPG – and the noisy but powerful 2.5 diesel.
- **JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE** (1994-99) – a 'poor man's Range Rover' with lots of kit and luxury, though suspect interior décor.
- **NISSAN PATROL** (1998-present) – seen on newsreels with 'UN' printed on the side. It is unrefined but hard to beat for affordable 4x4 ability.

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09 09 FUSION 1-6 ZETEC PLUS AUTO PAS 5DR AVALON BLUE 2000 MILES £10995
09 09 NEW FOCUS 1-6 ZETEC 5DR AUTO PAS AIR/C BLUE MET 3000 MILES £12995
09 09 MERIVA 1-6 LIFE AUTO PAS 5DR AIR/C STAR SILVER 200 MILES £10995
09 09 NISSAN MICRA ACENTA 5DR AUTO PAS DENIM BLUE 4000 MILES £9995
09 09 CHEVROLET LACETTI EST 1-8 SX SW AUTO PAS 5 DR SILVER 3000M £7995
09 09 MECEDES A160 ELEGANCE AUTO PAS MET GOLD 750 MILES £15495
09 58 NISSAN MICRA ACTIVE LUXURY 3DR AUTO PAS SILVER 1700 MILES £8995
08 58 NEW FOCUS 1-6 STYLE AUTO PAS AIR/C DEEP RED 3000 MILES £11995
08 58 MAZDA 3 TAKARA 1-6 AUTO PAS ALLOYS 5DR RED MET 5000 MILES £11995
08 58 A CLASS 150 CLASSIC SE AUTO PAS 5DR AIR/C SILVER 7000 MILES £13995
08 58 MEGANE 1-6 EXPRESSION ESTATE AUTO PAS BLACK 600 MILES £9995
08 58 GRAND SCENIC 2-0 S DYNAMIQUE 5DR AUTO PAS GREY 7000 MILES £12995
08 58 CHEVROLET LACETTI EST 1-8 SX SW AUTO PAS 5DR BLACK 4000M £7495
08 58 FORD FUSION 1-6 ZETEC CLIMATE SILVER METALLIC 6000 MILES £9995
08 58 FORD FUSION 1-4 STYLE CLIMATE SILVER METALLIC 5000 MILES £9495
08 58 PEUGEOT 107 2-TRONIC 3DR AUTO PAS RED 1400 MILES £7995
08 58 PEUGEOT 107 2-TRONIC 3DR AUTO PAS RED 2000 MILES £7995
08 58 NEW CORSA 1-2 CLUB AUTO PAS AIR/C 5DR ICE BLUE 4000 MILES £8995
08 58 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C ESTATE SILVER 7000 MILES £8995
08 58 CHEVROLET AVEO LT AUTO PAS AIR/C TURQUOISE 1900 MILES £7995
08 58 CHEVROLET AVEO LT AUTO PAS AIR/C TURQUOISE 1000 MILES £7995
08 58 NISSAN NOTE ACENTA 5DR AUTO PAS AIR SILVER 1800 MILES £8995
08 58 NISSAN NOTE ACENTA DR AUTO PAS AIR SILVER 3000 MILES £8995
08 58 RENAULT CLIO 1-6 EXPRESSION 3DR AUTO PAS 750 MILES £9495
08 58 TOYOTA AURIS TR AUTO PAS AIR/C DIESEL 5DR GREY 4000 MILES £11995
08 58 TOYOTA YARIS T3 AUTO PAS AIR/C 5DR BLUE 6000 MILES £9995
08 58 KANGOO AUTHENTIQUE 1-6 AUTO PAS AIR/C MET BLUE 8000 MILES £9995

COUPES & CONVERTIBLES

09 09 FORD FOCUS CC CONVERTIBLE AUTO PAS ALLOYS RED 4000 MILES £16995
08 58 PEUGEOT 207 SPORT CC 1-6 AUTO ALL BLACK LEATHER2000 MILES £15995
08 58 MICRA 1-6 CONVERTIBLE CC ACENTA AUTO PAS LATTE 4000 MILES £11995
08 08 MICRA 1-6 CONVERTIBLE CC ACENTA AUTO PAS PACIFIC 2000 MILES £10995
08 57 MEGANE PRIVILEGE 1-6 CONVERT AUTO PAS FLAME 6000 MILES £13495
07 57 MICRA 1-6 CONVERTIBLE CC SPORT AUTO PAS INFERNO 7000 MILES £10995
07 57 MEGANE PRIVILEGE 1-6 CONVERT AUTO PAS BLUE 5000 MILES £13495
06 56 MICRA 1-6 SPORT CONVERT AUTO PAS ALLOYS BLUE 12000 MILES £9995
06 56 MICRA 1-6 ESSENSA CONVERT AUTO PAS BLUE 18000 MILES £9995
06 56 MEGANE PRIVILEGE 1-6 CONVERT AUTO PAS GREY 16000 MILES £10995
06 56 MEGANE DYNAMIC 1-6 CONVERT AUTO PAS BLUE 19000 MILES £10495
06 56 MEGANE DYNAMIC 1-6 CONVERT AUTO PAS SILVER 23000 MILES £9995
06 56 MEGANE PRIVILEGE 1-6 CONVERT AUTO PAS BLUE 14000 MILES £10995
06 06 MICRA 1-6 ESSENSA CONVERT AUTO PAS SILVER 28000 MILES £9995
06 06 MEGANE DYNAMIC 1-6 CONVERT AUTO PAS BLUE 21000 MILES £9995
06 06 MEGANE DYNAMIC 1-6 CONVERT AUTO PAS BLUE 10000 MILES £10495
05 05 MEGANE DYNAMIC 1-6 CONVERT AUTO PAS BLUE 38000 MILES £8495

FIAT

06 56 FIAT PANDA ELEGANZA 1242CC 5DR AUTO PAS BLACK 16000 MILES £5995

FUSION & FIESTA

07 57 FIESTA STYLE 1-6 CLIMATE AUTO PASAIR/C BLUE 19000 MILES £7995
07 57 FUSION ZETEC 1-6 ZETEC CLIMATE AUTO PAS AIR BLACK8000 MILES £8995
07 07 FUSION ZETEC 1-6 ZETEC CLIMATE AUTO PAS AIR GREEN 4000 MILES £8495
06 56 FUSION ZETEC 1-6 ZETEC CLIMATE AUTO PAS AIR BLUE 8000 MILES £7495
06 56 FIESTA STYLE 1-6 CLIMATE AUTO PASAIR/C BLUE 13000 MILES £6995
03 53 FUSION 2 1-4 AUTO PAS AIR BLACK 4600 MILES £3995

FORD FOCUS HATCHES & 4 DOORS

08 08 NEW FOCUS 1-6 ZETEC 5DRAUTO PAS AIR/C BLACK 4000 MILES £11495
08 57 NEW FOCUS 1-6 STYLE AUTO PAS AIR/C BLUE 7000 MILES £10495
07 57 FOCUS 1-6 STYLE AUTO PAS AIR/C MOONDUST SILVER 7000 MILES £8995
07 57 FOCUS 1-6 ZETEC 5DRAUTO PAS AIR/CALLOYS GREEN 5000 MILES £8995
07 57 FOCUS 16 ZETEC 3DRAUTO PAS AIR/C ALLOYS SEA GREY 13000 MILES £8995
06 56 FOCUS 1-6 ZETEC CLIMATE AUTO PASAIR OCEAN BLUE 8000 MILES £7995
06 56 FORD FOCUS GHIA AUTO PAS 5DR AIR/C SEA GREY 13000 MILES £7995
06 56 FOCUS 1-6 GHIA AUTO PAS 4 DR ALLOYS TONIC BLUE 13000 MILES £7995
06 56 FOCUS 1-6 GHIA AUTO PAS 4 DR ALLOYS SILVER 17000 MILES £7995
06 56 FOCUS 1-6 GHIA AUTO PAS 4 DR ALLOYS TANGO 18000 MILES £7995
06 06 FOCUS 1-6 LX HATCH AUTO PAS AIR/C STRATOS SILVER 10000 MILES £6995
06 06 FOCUS 1-6 GHIA AUTO PAS 4 DR ALLOYS BLUE 12000 MILES £7495
06 06 FOCUS 1-6 GHIA AUTO PAS 4 DR ALLOYS SILVER 21000 MILES £7495
06 06 FOCUS 1-6 ZETEC CLIMATE AUTO PAS AIR/C ESTATE TONIC16000MLS £7495
05 55 FORD FOCUS GHIA 1-6 AUTO PAS 5DR AIR/C DENIM BLUE 28000 MILES £6995

FORD FOCUS ESTATES

07 57 FOCUS 1-6 STYLE ESTATE AUTO AIR/C MOONDUST SILVER1900 MILES £8995
07 07 FOCUS 2-0 GHIA 5 DR AUTO PAS SEA GREY AIR 17000 MILES £8995
06 56 FOCUS 2-0 GHIA ESTATE CAR AUTO PAS TONIC BLUE 23000 MILES £8995
06 56 FOCUS 2-0 GHIA AUTO ESTATE PAS AIR/C TONIC BLUE 18000 MILES £8495
06 56 FOCUS 1-6 LX ESTATE AUTO PAS AIR/C STEEL GREY 12000 MILES £6995
06 56 FOCUS 1-6 LX ESTATE AUTO PAS AIR/C SILVER 17000 MILES £6995
06 56 FOCUS 1-6 LX ESTATE AUTO PAS AIR/C SILVER 17000 MILES £6995
06 56 FOCUS 1-6 LX ESTATE AUTO PAS AIR/C TANGO 21000 MILES £6995
06 06 FOCUS 1-6 ZETEC CLIMATE ESTATE AUTO PAS AIR ALLOYS 11000MLS £7495
03 03 FOCUS 2-0 GHIA AUTO 4 DOOR PAS AIR/C PEPPER RED 48000 MILES £4995

MONDEO

06 56 MONDEO 2-0 GHIA AUTO PAS 5DR SILVER METALLIC 23000 MILES £9495
06 56 MONDEO 2-0 LX AUTO PAS 5DR AIR/C SILVER METALLIC 24000 MILES £8495

CORSA

08 58 NEW CORSA 1-2 CLUB AUTO PAS AIR/C 3DR ICE BLUE 300 MILES £8995
08 58 NEW CORSA 1-2 CLUB AUTO PAS AIR/C 5DR SILVER 4000 MILES £9495
07 57 CORSA 1-4 DESIGN 3 DR AUTO PAS BLUE 9000 MILES £9495
07 57 NEW CORSA 1-4 CLUB AUTO PAS AIR/C 3DR ULTRA BLUE15000 MILES £7995
07 07 NEW CORSA 1-4 SX AUTO PAS AIR/C 5DR BLUE 2000 MILES £8995
07 56 CORSA 1-4 DESIGN 5 DR AUTO PAS SILVER 9000 MILES £7995
07 56 CORSA 1-2 LIFE 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR/C SILVER 5000 MILES £7995
06 06 CORSA 1-4 ACTIVE 5 DR AIR/C AUTO PAS BLUE 16000 MILES £6995
06 06 CORSA 1-4 DESIGN 3 DR AUTO PAS SILVER 23000 MILES £6495
06 06 CORSA 1-4 DESIGN 5 DR AUTO PAS SILVER 11000 MILES £6995
06 06 CORSA 1-4 DESIGN 3 DR AUTO PAS ULTRA BLUE 2000 MILES £6995
06 06 CORSA 1-0 LIFE ECO AUTO PAS 5DR STAR SILVER 24000 MILES £5495
06 06 CORSA 1-0 LIFE ECO AUTO PAS 5DR STAR MAUVE 26000 MILES £5495
03 53 CORSA 1-4 DESIGN 3 DR AUTO PAS SILVER 14000 MILES £5495

DAIHATSU

06 56 DAIHATSU SIRION SE 1-3 5 DR AUTO PAS SILVER 28000 MILES £5995
06 06 DAIHATSU CHARADE 1-0 5 DR AUTO PAS SILVER 12000 MILES £4995

CITROENS

08 08 CITROEN C3 1-6 SX AUTO PAS 5DR AIR/C BLUE 8000 MILES £9995
08 08 CITROEN C3 1-6 SX AUTO PAS 5DR AIR/C BLUE 8000 MILES £9995
06 56 CITROEN PICASSO 2-0 EXCLUSIVE AUTO DIABLO 16000 MILES £8495

MAZDA

07 57 MAZDA 6 TS AUTO PAS ALLOYS AIR/C 5DR SILVER BLUE 17000 MILES £10995
07 57 MAZDA 3 TS AUTO PAS ALLOYS AIR/C 5DR SILVER 8000 MILES £10995
06 56 MAZDA 6 TS AUTO PAS ALLOYS AIR/C 5DR SEA GREY 16000 MILES £9995
06 56 MAZDA 6 TS AUTO PAS ALLOYS AIR/C 5DR MET BLUE 9000 MILES £9995
06 56 MAZDA 6 TS AUTO PAS ALLOYS AIR/C 5DR SEA GREY 21000 MILES £9495

SUZUKI

07 57 GRAND VITARA 2-0 5DR AUTO PAS AIR/C BLUE 8000 MILES £11995
06 06 SUZUKI IGNIS 1-5 GL 5 DR AUTO PAS CATS EYES BLUE 15000 MILES £5995
05 55 SUZUKI SWIFT 1-3 GLX 5DR AUTO PAS AIR GREY 16000 MILES £7495
02 51 SUZUKI GRAND VITARA 2-0 DIESEL AUTO PAS SILVER 50000 MILES £4995

KIA

06 56 KIA PICANTO 1-1 LX 5DR AUTO PAS AIR/CON 21000 MILES £5995
06 56 KIA PICANTO 1-1 LX 5DR AUTO PAS AIR/CON 10000 MILES £5995

HYUNDAI

08 08 HYUNDAI AMICA 1-1 CDX 5DR AUTO PAS MET GREY 5000 MILES £6995
07 57 HYUNDAI AMICA 1-1 CDX 5DR AUTO PAS MET BLUE 5000 MILES £6495
07 57 HYUNDAI AMICA 1-1 CDX 5DR AUTO PAS YELLOW 9000 MILES £5995
07 57 HYUNDAI AMICA 1-1 CDX 5DR AUTO PAS YELLOW 9000 MILES £5995
07 07 HYUNDAI AMICA 1-1 CDX 5DR AUTO PAS MET BLUE 4000 MILES £5995
06 56 HYUNDAI MATRIX 1-6 GSi AUTO PAS 5DR SILVER GREEN 7000 MILES £6995
06 56 HYUNDAI MATRIX 1-6 GSi AUTO PAS 5DR SILVER GREEN 16000 MILES £6995
06 56 HYUNDAI AMICA 1-1 CDX 5DR AUTO PAS ELECTRIC BLUE 9000 MILES £5495
06 06 HYUNDAI AMICA 1-1 CDX 5DR AUTO PAS ELECTRIC BLUE 7000 MILES £5495
06 06 HYUNDAI AMICA 1-1 CDX 5DR AUTO PAS BLUE 19000 MILES £5295

TOYOTA

08 08 TOYOTA YARIS T3 AUTO PAS AIR/C 5DR ALLOYS BLACK 8000 MILES £9495
07 57 YARIS 1-3 ZINC 3DR AUTO PAS ALLOYS BLACK UNDER 800 MILES £8995
07 57 AYGO 1-0 PLUS 3DR AUTO PAS SILVER 2000 MILES £7495
06 56 COROLLA 1-6 T3 5DR AUTO PAS AIR/C MET SILVER 6000 MILES £9995
06 06 TOYOTA YARIS VERSO 1-3 T3 AUTO PAS SILVER 6000 MILES £8495
05 05 TOYOTA YARIS 1-0 T SPIRIT AUTO PAS ICE BLUE 17000 MILES £6995
04 04 COROLLA 1-6 T SPIRIT 3 5 DR AUTO AIR/C MET SILVER 24000 MILES £6995
03 53 TOYOTA YARIS 1-3 T SPIRIT AUTO PAS GREEN 8000 MILES £5995
02 02 TOYOTA YARIS VERSO 1-3 GLS AUTO PAS SILVER 22000 MILES £5995

NISSAN

08 08 NISSAN MICRA TEKNA 5 DR AUTO PAS INFERNO RED 9000 MILES £9495
08 08 NISSAN MICRA ACENTA 5DR AUTO PAS BLADE SILVER 10000 MILES £8495
08 08 NISSAN MICRA ACENTA + 5DR AUTO PAS CAFFE LATTE 4000 MILES £8995
08 08 NISSAN NOTE ACENTA R 5DR AUTO PAS BLACK MET 2000 MILES £9995
07 57 NISSAN NOTE ACENTA 5DR AUTO PAS CAFFE LATTE 4000 MILES £8995
06 56 NISSAN MICRA SPIRITA 5DR AUTO PAS PACIFIC BLUE 5000 MILES £7495
06 56 NISSAN MICRA INITIA 1-2 3DR AUTO PAS BLADE SILVER 27000 MILES £5995
06 56 NISSAN MICRA SPIRITA 5DR AUTO PAS PACIFIC BLUE 5000 MILES £7495
06 56 NISSAN MICRA SPIRITA 5DR AUTO PAS PACIFIC BLUE 11000 MILES £7495
06 56 NISSAN MICRA SVE 3DR AUTO PAS INFERNO RED 23000 MILES £6995
06 56 NISSAN MICRA SVE 3DR AUTO PAS ICE BLUE 12000 MILES £6995
06 06 NISSAN MICRA 1-2 S 5 DR AUTO PAS PACIFIC BLUE 11000 MILES £6495
06 06 NISSAN MICRA 1-2 S 5 DR AUTO PAS PACIFIC BLUE 18000 MILES £6495

SKODA

08 58 SKODA ROOMSTER 2 AUTO PAS AIR/C BLACK 6000 MILES £9495
08 08 SKODA ROOMSTER 2 AUTO PAS AIR/C CHAMPAGNE 5000 MILES £8995

MG ROVER

03 03 ROVER 45 IMPRESSION AUTO PAS AIR/C NIGHTFIRE RED 43000 MILES £2995

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06 56 CHEVROLET MATIZ SE AUTO PAS 5DR SILVER 10000 MILES £4995
06 56 CHEVROLET MATIZ SE AUTO PAS 5DR BLUE 12000 MILES £4995
06 56 CHEVROLET LACETTI 1-6 SX AUTO PAS 5DR SILVER 17000 MILES £5995
06 06 CHEVROLET LACETTI 1-6 SX AUTO PAS 5DR BLUE 8000 MILES £5495
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07 56 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS 5DR AIR/C STAR SILVER 17000 MILES £6495
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06 56 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS 5DR AIR/C RED METALLIC 19000 MILES £6995
06 56 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS 5DR HATCH PAS AIR ULTRA BLUE 7000 MILES £6995
06 06 ASTRA 1-8 DESIGN AUTO PAS ALLOYS 5DR ULTRA 8000 MILES £7995
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08 58 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C ESTATE BLUE 12000 MILES £8995
08 08 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C ESTATE SILVER 12000 MILES £8495
07 57 ASTRA 1-8 DESIGN AUTO PAS ESTATE METRO BLUE 14000 MILES £8995
07 57 ASTRA 1-8 DESIGN LIFE AUTO PAS ESTATE MET GREY 7000 MILES £8495
07 07 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C ESTATE PANACOTTA 6000 MILES £7495
06 56 ASTRA 18 LIFE AUTO 5DR ESTATE PAS AIR PANNACOTTA 17000 MILES £6995
06 56 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO 5DR ESTATE PAS AIR STAR SILVER 8000 MILES £6995
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07 07 ZAFIRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS SILVER 7 SEATER 17000 MILES £8995
06 56 MERIVA 1-6 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C 5DR STAR SILVER 3000 MILES £7995
06 56 MERIVA 1-6 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C 5DR SILVER LIGHTNING 5000 MILES £7995
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04 04 ZAFIRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C ULTRA BLUE 42000 MILES £4995

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08 08 GRAND SCENIC 1-6 DYNAMIQUE 5DR AUTO PAS BLACK 2000 MILES £11995
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08 08 SCENIC 1-6 DYNAMIQUE 5DR AUTO PAS AIR GREY 10000 MILES £10995
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07 57 SCENIC 1-6 DYNAMIQUE 5DR AUTO PAS AIR GOLD 16000 MILES £8995
07 07 SCENIC PRIVILEDGE 1-6 AUTO PAS AIR/C GOLD 10000 MILES £9495
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06 56 SCENIC DYNAMIC 16 AUTO PAS 5DR AIR/C SILVER 16000 MILES £7995
06 56 GRAND SCENIC DYNAMIC 16 AUTO 5DR BLUE 7 SEATS 8000 MILES £8995
06 56 SCENIC EXPRESSION 16 AUTO PAS 5DR AIR/C BLUE 17000 MILES £7495
06 56 SCENIC PRIVILEDGE 1-6 AUTO PAS AIR/C CHAMPAGNE 21000 MILES £8495
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06 06 SCENIC PRIVILEDGE 1-6 AUTO PAS AIR/C BLACK 17000 MILES £7995
06 06 SCENIC DYNAMIC 16 AUTO PAS 5DR AIR/C RED MET 14000 MILES £7495
06 06 SCENIC DYNAMIC 16 AUTO PAS 5DR AIR/C BLUE 16000 MILES £7495

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08 08 RENAULT CLIO 1-6 EXPRESSION 3DR AUTO PAS 2000 MILES £8995
07 57 RENAULT MODUS INITIALE 1-6 AUTO PAS LEATHER 9000 MILES £8995
07 07 MEGANE 1-6 DYNAMIQUE 5DR AUTO PAS AIR SILVER 16000 MILES £7995
07 07 KANGOO EXPRESSION 1-6 AUTO PAS MET RED 17000 MILES £6995
07 07 KANGOO EXPRESSION 1-6 AUTO PAS MET SILVER AIR/C 16000 MILES £7995
06 56 KANGOO EXPRESSION 1-6 AUTO PAS MET RED AIR/C 15000 MILES £6995
06 06 MEGANE DYNAMIQUE1-6 AUTO PAS ESTATE GOLD 17000 MILES £6995
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06 06 A CLASS 150 CLASSIC SE AUTO PAS 5DR AIR/C RED 6000 MILES £9995
03 53 A140 CLASSIC SE AUTO PAS SILVER AIR/C 5DR 7000 MILES £6495
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01 51 A140 CLASSIC SE AUTO PAS BLUEY 44000 MILES £4995
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08 08 PEUGEOT 207 SPORT AUTO PAS 3DR AIR TURQUOISE 5000 MILES £9495
08 57 PEUGEOT 207 SE PREMIUM AUTO PAS 5DR AIR WHITE 7000 MILES £10995
08 57 PEUGEOT 207 SPORT AUTO PAS 5DR AIR MISTY GREY 23000 MILES £8995
07 57 PEUGEOT 206 LOOK 3DR AUTO PAS AIR/C STORM GREY 2000 MILES £8495
07 57 PEUGEOT 307 S 5DR AUTO PAS AIR ALLOYS DIABLO RED 17000 MILES £7995
07 07 PEUGEOT 107 2-TRONIC 3DR AUTO PAS SILVER 1300 MILES £6995
06 56 PEUGEOT 307 S 5DR AUTO PAS AIR ALLOYS SILVER RED 17000 MILES £7495
06 06 307 SW ESTATE 1-6 AUTO PAS AIRC GREY MET 13000 MILES £7995
06 06 PEUGEOT 206 1-6 SPORT AUTO PAS ALLOYS 5DR 15000 MILES £6995

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08 08 NEW FOCUS 1-6 STYLE 5 SPD PAS AIR/C BLUE 4000 MILES £9995
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08 58 SKODA ROOMSTER 2 AUTO PAS AIR/C BLACK 6000 MILES £10495
08 58 CHEVROLET LACETTI EST 1-8 SX SW AUTO PAS 5DR SILVER 4000MILES £7495
08 58 CHEVROLET AVEO LT AUTO PAS AIR/C TURQUOISE 1900 MILES £7995
08 08 MICRA 1-6 CONVERTIBLE CC ACENTA AUTO PAS PACIFIC 2000 MILES £10995
08 08 HYUNDAI AMICA 1-1 CDX 5DR AUTO PAS MET GREY 5000 MILES £6995
08 08 TOYOTA YARIS T3 AUTO PAS AIR/C ALLOYS 5DR BLACK 8000 MILES £8995
07 57 PEUGEOT 206 LOOK 3DR AUTO PAS AIR/C STORM GREY 2000 MILES £8495
08 57 FIESTA 1-4 GHIA 5DR 5 SPD MANUAL BLUE AIR/C 2000 MILES £8995
06 56 FOCUS 1-6 GHIA AUTO PAS 4DR ALLOYS SILVER 12000 MILES £7995
06 56 KANGOO EXPRESSION 1-6 AUTO PAS MET RED AIR/C 15000 MILES £6995
06 06 FOCUS 1-6 GHIA AUTO PAS 4DR ALLOYS BLUE 12000 MILES £7495
06 06 DAIHATSU CHARADE 1-0 5DR AUTO PAS SILVER 12000 MILES £4995
06 06 C180 KOMPRESSOR CLASSIC AUTO PAS AIR BLUE 32000 MILES £11995
06 06 MEGANE DYNAMIC 1-6 CONVERT AUTO PAS BLUE 10000 MILES £10495
05 55 SUZUKI SWIFT 1-3 GLX 5DR AUTO PAS AIR GREY 16000 MILES £7495
05 05 TOYOTA YARIS 1-0 T SPIRIT AUTO PAS ICE BLUE 17000 MILES £6995
04 04 MAZDA 2 1-2 S 5DR 5 SPD TONIC BLUE 22000 MILES £4695
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Astra Active 1.4 5 door in black	£17119	£11995	£5124
Agila Design CDTi 1.3 5 door in Sugar white	£13300	£10495	£2805
Corsa Active CDTi 3 door in Black sapphire	£13029	£9995	£3034
Corsa SXi 1.4 with air con in silver	£13880	£10495	£3385

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AGILA

Year	Reg No	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
2005	GJ55TFN	Agila Expression	1.0	5	Star silver	24,800	3,695
2009	GJ09ZWR	Agila Design Auto	1.2	5	Sugar white	2,290	9,495
2009	GJ09ZXG	Agila Design	1.2	5	Lemon grass	4,150	8,495
2009	GJ09ZXH	Agila Design CDTi	1.3D	5	Atlanta blue	6,230	9,495
2009	GJ09ZWP	Agila Design CDTi	1.3D	5	Star silver	5,210	9,495
2009	GF59CAX	Agila Design CDTi	1.3D	5	Atlanta Blue	Del mileage	£10,995
2009	GF59CBO	Agila Design CDTi	1.3D	5	Sugar white	Del mileage	£10,995

CORSA

Year	Reg No	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
2000	X276HGN*	Corsa Comfort Auto	1.4	3	Star silver	69,325	2,995
2001	Y895VKE*	Corsa Club	1.0	3	Star silver	60,250	2,495
2007	GF57WVU	Corsa Design	1.2	3	Air blue	21,575	6,995
2007	GJ57USS	Corsa Design CDTi	1.3D	5	Air blue	25800	7,995
2008	GL57VXX	Corsa VXR	1.6	3	Arden blue	14,950	12,395
2008	GL57VYD	Corsa Design Auto	1.4	3	Star silver	34,500	8,295
2008	GJ08LBG	Corsa Breeze	1.2	3	Star silver	12,220	7,995
2008	GJ58BVZ	Corsa Design CDTi	1.3	3	Metro blue	7,035	9,495
2009	GF09SUX	Corsa Club Auto A/c	1.4	5	Air blue	3,250	9,995
2009	GL09FXB	Corsa Active CDTi	1.3D	5	Ultra blue	2,990	9,995
2009	GJ09RXF	Corsa Sxi CDTi A/C	1.3	3	Black sapphire	9,670	9,495
2009	GJ09RVU	Corsa Active	1.2	5	Silver lightening	6,520	8,995
2009	GJ09RVW	Corsa Sxi	1.2	3	Black sapphire	6,236	8,995
2009	GL09FWH	Corsa Sxi A/c	1.2	5	Metro blue	2,190	9,995
2009	GL09FWJ	Corsa Design Auto	1.4	5	Air blue	3,610	10,995
2009	GF59CFD	Corsa Active CDTi	1.3D	3	Black sapphire	Del mileage	£9,995
2009	GF59CFE	Corsa Active CDTi	1.3D	3	Metro blue	Del mileage	£9,995
2009	GF59CGV	Corsa Sxi A/c	1.4	3	Star silver	Del mileage	£10,595
2009	GF59CDY	Corsa Life A/c CDTi	1.3D	5	Star silver	Del mileage	£10,895

TIGRA

Year	Reg No	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
2006	EN06AOD	Tigra Exclusiv	1.4	2	Air blue	30,500	8,995

VECTRA

Year	Reg No	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
2006	KY06NCU	Vectra elite CDTi (150)	1.9D	5	Black Sapphire	38,125	8,995
2007	DN07YYK	Vectra Exclusiv CDTi Auto	1.9D	5	Silver lightening	19,350	8,695
2008	GK58WEA	Vectra Exclusive	1.8	5	Black sapphire	15,390	9,495

ASTRA

Year	Reg No	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
2006	GK06UAV	Astra Sxi Sports hatch	1.6	3	Black sapphire	22,675	7,995
2006	GF56SSK	Astra Sxi Sports hatch	1.6	3	Panacotta	21,950	8,495
2006	GK56YXP	Astra Sxi	1.6	5	Moonland	28,600	7,895
2006	GJ56UJV	Astra Active	1.4	5	Ultra blue	13,480	7,495
2006	GK56KVV	Astra Active	1.6	5	Silver lightening	36,800	7,395
2007	KJ57LHH	Astra Sri Ex Pack	1.8	5	Black sapphire	26,000	9,495
2007	GL57VYR	Astra Design Auto	1.8	5	Moonland	7,825	8,995
2008	GJ08LWX	Astra Sxi Sports hatch	1.4	3	Flame red	11,225	9,995
2008	LJ58SKU	Astra Sri Sports hatch CDTi	1.9D	3	Power red	15,850	13,495
2008	GJ58XGA	Astra Sxi	1.6	5	Green spirit	3,725	10,495
2008	KP58WCY	Astra Sri TBO X Pack	1.6	3	Metro blue	8,300	12,995
2008	GN58KXT	Astra Sxi	1.6	5	Flame red	12,000	10,495
2009	GJ09RWY	Astra Breeze Plus	1.6	5	Metro blue	5,950	9,995
2009	GJ09RVR	Astra Breeze CDTi	1.7D	5	Metro blue	4,720	10,895
2009	GJ09RVT	Astra Breeze CDTi	1.7D	5	Silver lightening	7,190	10,845
2009	GJ09RWV	Astra Breeze Sports hatch	1.7D	3	Black sapphire	6,250	11,695
2009	GL09FVY	Astra Club	1.4	5	Moonland	5,120	9,995
2009	GL09FWD	Astra Club	1.4	5	Star silver	5,690	9,995
2009	GF59CFN	Astra Sxi Sports Hatch	1.6	3	Sovereign silver	Del mileage	£13,695
2009	GF59CEY	Astra Sxi	1.4	5	Technical grey	Del mileage	£12,995
2009	GF59CFZ	Astra Life A/c	1.6	5	Metro blue	Del mileage	£12,495
2009	GF59CEK	Astra Active	1.4	5	Black sapphire	Del mileage	£12,295
2009	GF59CFX	Astra Sxi	1.6	5	Black sapphire	Del mileage	£13,495
2009	GF59CFY	Astra Sxi Sport hatch	1.6	3	Technical grey	Del mileage	£13,695

MERIVA

Year	Reg No	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
2006	GF56SUY	Meriva Life A/C	1.4	5	Steel blue	19,730	6,695
2007	GF57ZJE	Meriva Design CDTi	1.7D	5	Star silver	34,950	8,495
2008	GJ58BVE	Meriva CDTi Breeze Plus	1.3	5	Black sapphire	10,930	9,995
2009	GL09FWB	Meriva Design	1.4	5	Air blue	3,260	9,995
2009	GJ09RXA	Meriva Active CDTi	1.3D	5	Ultra blue	8,750	10,695

INSIGNIA & SIGNUM

Year	Reg No	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
2006	GJ56UAP	Signum Elite CDTi	1.9D	5	Misty grey	51,685	7,995
2009	GF58YWD	Insignia Elite Auto Nav	2.0	5	Star silver	6,300	18,995
2009	GJ09TVT	Insignia Sports Tourer Exc (160)	1.9D	5	Panacotta	12,000	16,995
2009	GJ09TVP	Insignia Elite CDTi Auto (160)	1.9D	4	Black sapphire	8,250	21,995
2009	GJ09JOV	Insignia Sports Tourer Exc (160)	1.9D	5	Silver lightening	5,925	16,995
2009	GJ09RWL	Insignia Tourer Exclusive	1.8	5	Black sapphire	9,300	13,995
2009	GL09FWK	Insignia Exclusive CDTi	2.0	5	Technical grey	16,700	13,995

ZAFIRA

Year	Reg No	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
2004	YH54AWP*	Zafira Design DTi	2.0D	5	Prestige blue	67,850	5,495
2006	GK56YFU	Zafira Club	1.6	5	Metro blue	40,250	7,995
2006	LV56HNW	Zafira Club Auto	1.8	5	Silver lightening	12,120	8,495
2009	GJ09TVZ	Zafira Sri XP CDTi	1.9D	5	Star silver	3,780	16,995

DUE SOON

Year	Reg No	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
2008	GK08PTY	Zafira Breeze Plus	1.6	5	Star silver	27,000	9,495
2004	GF54SZY	Astra Elite	1.6	5	Black sapphire	37,175	5,995
2007	GF57OGD	Vectra CDTi Elite (150ps)	1.9D	5	Black sapphire	41,000	9,495

OTHERS

Year	Reg No	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
2005	GL55PNJ*	Ford Focus Zetec	1.6	5	Metallic grey	53,050	6,295
2004	GJ54VEX*	Peugeot Diesel 407S	1.6	4	Metallic grey	58,750	4,995
2002	GJ02ECX*	Renault Clio Expression +	1.4	5	Metallic blue	49,750	3,395

COMMERCIAL USED SELECTION

2006	VO56MYF	Combo Envoy, plylined	1.3 CDTi		White	36120	£5495
2007	GJ07UJB	Combo Crew van, PAS	1.3CDTi		White	8,700	£7,495
2007	GK57ZNP	Combo Fold flat passenger seat	1.3CDTi		White	11,450	£6,995
2007	GK57ZPD	Movano Long wheel base	2.50CDTi		White	10,300	£10,995
2008	GJ08HBU	Movano MWB, Plylined	2.5CDTI		White	11,050	£9,995
2008	GF08BHU	Movano LWB, Bulkhead, Plylined	2.5CDTI		White	6,460	£11,995
2008	GJ58BWD	Movano MWB H/R , Bulkhead	2.5CDTI		White	14,050	£10,995
2009	GJ09ZWV	Vivaro SWB, 115 bhp, plylined	2.0CDTi		White	9,950	£9,995
2009	GJ09ZWT	Vivaro LWB Double cab	2.0CDTi		Silver	6,120	£14,995

COMMERCIAL PRE-REG VEHICLES

2009	GF59CFP	Vivaro SWB 5 doors (115)	2.0D		White	Delivery	£12,995
2009	GL09FXD	Corsavan Sportive	1.3CDTi		Silver	Delivery	£8,995
2009	GL09FWG	Movano MWB 10'6" Alloy	2.5CDTi		White	Delivery	£13,995
2009	GF59CFJ	Combo CDTi 5 doors	1.7D		White	Delivery	£8,995
2009	GL09FWN	Astravan Sportive CDTi	1.7CDTi		Silver	Delivery	£10,995
2009	GF59CGK	Astravan Club 3 doors	1.7D		White	Delivery	£9,995
2009	GF59CFK	Astravan Club 3 door	1.7D		White	Delivery	£9,995
2009	GF59CFG	Astravan Club 3 doors	1.7D		White	Delivery	£9,995

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FIRST GEAR

Compiled by Steve Loader

Baby Citroën goes posh

WE PREDICTED a trend towards 'gentrification' in small cars as economy motoring and downsizing gathers momentum.

And Citroën has illustrated the point with a 2010 luxury version of its C1 city car.

The new VTR+ trim level (from £9,345) replaces plain old VTR and is highlighted by the 'Leather Pack': part leather/part Alcantara upholstery, leather steering wheel and gear knob.

But VTR+ models also come with enhanced safety: front lateral airbags and Isofix child seat anchorage points on the rear seats. A 'Safety Pack' – ESP (electronic stability programme) and curtain airbags – and air con are further options.

For the tighter budget, the three and five-door C1 line-up starts at £8,495 and the mid-range Splash Special Edition (from £9,045) continues for now with air con, remote locking and front electric windows as standard.

Peugeot boosts 308 comforts

PEUGEOT put down a marker in 2007 with its Ford Focus class 308.

We now know that the hatchback and SW MPV/estate (pictured) line-up's classy cabin and much improved refinement over its 307 predecessor, represented a shift upmarket by the French marque.

And the work continues, both inside and under the skin of the car, with a series of updates for 2010.

All versions, except the poverty spec Urban models, now get ESP (electronic stability programme) while upmarket versions get Peugeot's USB and Bluetooth kit for easy linking of MP3/iPod music players, mobile phones and other gadgetry.

Steering column controls allow the MP3 unit and phone – using the car's speakers and an in-built microphone – to be operated remotely.

A more efficient and cleaner 140bhp diesel with manual gearbox also replaces the previous 136bhp engine.

Suzuki sparks grant grab

SUZUKI has fired what may be the opening salvo in a battle for the remaining cash and sales fostered by the Government's £2,000-a-go Scrappage grants.

The scheme, launched last May but due to end in March, has seen sales of small cars soar and several carmakers increase market penetration – Suzuki's market share rose nearly 10 per cent in 2009 against an overall UK market drop of more than six per cent.

The Japanese marque's bid to maintain momentum will be helped by the new Alto city car, now available on a PCP (Personal Contract Purchase) scheme for just £95 per month, plus zero per cent finance on most models in the newly refreshed Swift supermini (pictured) line-up as well as the SX4 and Grand Vitara SUV ranges.

Quality used cars

MODEL	ENGINE	REG	YEAR	MILES	COLOUR	PRICE
FABIA CLASSIC 5DR HATCH	1.2 6v 54 BHP (PETROL)	GF54YBR	OCTOBER '04	44520	SAHARA BEIGE	£4,490.00
FABIA CLASSIC 5DR HATCH	1.2 12v 64 BHP (PETROL)	GN04YZA	JUNE '04	24342	GRAPHITE GREY	£4,990.00
FABIA CLASSIC 5DR HATCH	1.2 12v 64 BHP (PETROL)	GF56UZS	DECEMBER '06	65042	DYNAMIC BLUE	£4,990.00
FABIA AMBIENTE 5DR HATCH	1.2 12v 64 BHP (PETROL)	KX55GYG	SEPTEMBER '05	36164	SATIN GREY	£5,490.00
FABIA AMBIENTE 5DR HATCH	1.2 12v 64 BHP (PETROL)	GL56XKB	JANUARY '07	14237	CORRIDA RED	£6,490.00
FABIA SPORT 5DR HATCH	1.4 16v 75 BHP (PETROL)	GF05PHX	MAY '05	20517	DYNAMIC BLUE	£5,990.00
FABIA 1 5DR HATCH	1.2 12v 70 BHP (PETROL)	GD07CDV	JULY '07	17178	SATIN GREY	£7,290.00
FABIA 1 5DR HATCH	1.4 TDi 80 BHP (DIESEL)	GJ57WCG	OCTOBER '07	24954	SATIN GREY	£8,490.00
FABIA 2 5DR HATCH	1.2 12v 70 BHP (PETROL)	GN57VVL	SEPTEMBER '07	9339	CAPPUCCINO BEIGE	£7,990.00
● FABIA 2 5DR HATCH	1.2 12v 70 BHP (PETROL)	GK09YFU	MARCH '09	TBA	STORM BLUE	£8,490.00
● FABIA 2 5DR HATCH	1.2 12v 70 BHP (PETROL)	GK59ZKJ	SEPTEMBER '09	TBA	CORRIDA RED	£8,890.00
● FABIA 2 5DR HATCH	1.6 16v AUTO (PETROL)	GL09ARZ	JUNE '09	TBA	ARCTIC GREEN	£9,990.00
FABIA 2 5DR HATCH	1.4 TDi 80 BHP (DIESEL)	GD07CDX	JULY '07	12469	FLAMENCO RED	£8,990.00
FABIA 2 5DR HATCH	1.4 TDi 80 BHP (DIESEL)	GL57YKK	JANUARY '08	7045	SATIN GREY	£8,990.00
● FABIA 2 5DR HATCH	1.4 TDi 80 BHP (DIESEL)	GJ58SYG	SEPTEMBER '08	TBA	TANGERINE ORANGE	£8,490.00
● FABIA 2 5DR HATCH	1.4 TDi 80 BHP (DIESEL)	GJ58SYE	SEPTEMBER '08	TBA	BLACK MAGIC	£8,490.00
● FABIA 2 5DR HATCH	1.9 TDi 105 BHP (DIESEL)	GJ58SYS	SEPTEMBER '08	TBA	SATIN GREY	£8,990.00
● FABIA 2 5DR HATCH	1.9 TDi 105 BHP (DIESEL)	GJ58SYR	SEPTEMBER '08	TBA	CAPPUCCINO BEIGE	£8,990.00
● FABIA 2 5DR HATCH	1.9 TDi 105 BHP (DIESEL)	GL09APO	JULY '09	TBA	TANGERINE ORANGE	£9,990.00
FABIA 3 5DR HATCH	1.4 16v 85 BHP (PETROL)	GL57TMU	DECEMBER '07	10656	ANTHRACITE GREY	£9,290.00

MODEL	ENGINE	REG	YEAR	MILES	COLOUR	PRICE
FABIA 3 5DR HATCH	1.6 16v 105 BHP (PETROL)	GK57YRU	SEPTEMBER '07	6039	BLACK MAGIC	£9,790.00
FABIA vRS 5DR HATCH	1.9 TDi 130 BHP (DIESEL)	GJ05LOF	MARCH '05		BLACK MAGIC	£6,990.00
FABIA CLASSIC 5DR ESTATE	1.4 MPi 68 BHP (PETROL)	GK51FWH	NOVEMBER '01	73453	STONE GREY	£3,490.00
FABIA AMBIENTE 5DR ESTATE	1.4 16v 100 BHP (PETROL)	GK56VDG	SEPTEMBER '06	22096	CAPPUCCINO BEIGE	£6,990.00
FABIA AMBIENTE 5DR ESTATE	1.4 TDi 75 BHP (DIESEL)	EJ05DGF	APRIL '05	44489	SAHARA BEIGE	£5,990.00
FABIA AMBIENTE 5DR ESTATE	1.4 TDi 75 BHP (DIESEL)	GK05OKG	MARCH '05	34327	STONE GREY	£6,290.00
FABIA ELEGANCE 5DR ESTATE	1.4 16v 100BHP (PETROL)	GJ06CFN	MARCH '06	6345	SAHARA BEIGE	£7,290.00
FABIA BLUELINE 5DR ESTATE	1.2 12v 64 BHP (PETROL)	LY03VVG	AUGUST '03	88394	ADMIRAL BLUE	£3,290.00
ROOMSTER LEVEL 2 5DR MPV	1.4 16v 85BHP (PETROL)	GL56HZR	DECEMBER '06	80713	OCEAN BLUE	£5,490.00
● ROOMSTER LEVEL 2 5DR MPV	1.6 16v AUTO (PETROL)	GJ09NLF	MARCH '09	TBA	POLAR BLUE	£9,490.00
ROOMSTER LEVEL 2 5DR MPV	1.4 TDi 80 BHP (DIESEL)	GL56HZA	DECEMBER '06	15127	CORRIDA RED	£7,990.00
● ROOMSTER LEVEL 2 5DR MPV	1.4 TDi 80 BHP (DIESEL)	GJ09NLE	MARCH '09	TBA	BLACK MAGIC	£9,490.00
● ROOMSTER LEVEL 3 5DR MPV	1.4 TDi 80 BHP (DIESEL)	GK58NNC	SEPTEMBER '08	TBA	ANTHRACITE GREY	£9,890.00
ROOMSTER LEVEL 3 5DR MPV	1.9 TDi 105 BHP (DIESEL)	GL56XJF	JANUARY '07	8353	STORM BLUE	£9,490.00
● ROOMSTER SCOUT 5DR MPV	1.9 TDi 105 BHP (DIESEL)	GK59ZKS	SEPTEMBER '09	TBA	ROSSO BRUNELLO	£12,490.00
OCTAVIA CLASSIC 5DR HATCH	1.6 FSi 115 BHP (PETROL)	GJ56TVZ	SEPTEMBER '06	28487	DIAMOND SILVER	£7,290.00
OCTAVIA CLASSIC 5DR HATCH	1.9 TDi 105 BHP (DIESEL)	RH58CAB	NOVEMBER '08	41551	CANDY WHITE	£9,490.00
OCTAVIA AMBIENTE 5DR HATCH	1.6 FSi 115 BHP (PETROL)	GJ56TWD	SEPTEMBER '06	40594	FLAMENCO RED	£7,490.00
OCTAVIA AMBIENTE 5DR HATCH	2.0 TDi 140 BHP (DIESEL)	GL07TUV	JUNE '07	20909	BLACK MAGIC	£10,490.00

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Until 31st January 2010 we've reduced the price on all Octavia models, so it'll be like not having to pay the VAT. And with 0% APR typical* thrown in on Octavia, L&K, vRS, Scout and 4x4 there's no excuse for not popping in to see us.

For more information or to organise a test drive contact us

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Model shown is Octavia vRS hatch 2.0T FSI 200bhp at £19,015 RRP including optional metallic paint at £400 RRP. **Official fuel consumption in mpg for the Škoda range: Urban 19.2 (14.7) – 53.3 (5.3), Extra Urban 38.2 (7.4) – 83.1 (3.4), Combined 28.0 (10.1) – 68.9 (4.1). CO_2 Emissions (g/km) Škoda Range: 109 – 235**

***Offer is subject to a minimum 50% deposit and is over a two year period.** Offer not available in conjunction with scrappage offers. Retail sales only. Indemnities may be required. Subject to status. Available for over 18's for orders taken by 31st January 2010. Skoda finance, Freepost Škoda Finance. Subject to vehicle availability. Offer may be varied or withdrawn at any time. Prices are accurate at time of print.

Fabia 3 and Scout now tax and interest free*.

Until 31st January 2010, we've reduced the price on all Fabia 3 and Scout models so it'll be like not having to pay the VAT.

This represents a potential customer saving of up to £1,808.48 on the RRP. Prices for Fabia 3 start from £10,813.70 RRP and Scout start from £11,518.04 RRP.

And with 0% APR typical* thrown in there is no excuse for not popping in to see us.

For more information or to organise a test drive contact us

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Model shown is a Fabia 3 1.4 16V 85bhp at £12,730 including optional metallic paint at £400 RRP. **Official fuel consumption in mpg (litres/100km) for the Fabia Range: Urban 27.7 (10.2) – 53.3 (5.3), Extra-urban 47.1 (6.0) – 83.1 (3.4), Combined 37.7 (7.5) – 68.9 (4.1). CO_2 emissions for the Fabia Range 109 – 180g/km.**

***Offer is subject to a minimum 50% deposit and is over a two year period.** Offer not available in conjunction with scrappage offers. Retail sales only. Indemnities may be required. Subject to status. Available for over 18's for orders taken by 31st January 2010. Skoda Finance, Freepost Škoda Finance. Subject to vehicle availability. Offer may be varied or withdrawn at any time. Prices are accurate at time of print.

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Motability

Motorline launches new used site

by SAMDAVISON

KENT dealer group Motorline has responded to the recession-led demand for used cars by opening Motorline All Makes Used Cars in Canterbury.

The new site is stocking nearly new and used cars and currently has around 100 vehicles on display in the open and in a newly-developed showroom, in Westminster Road within the Vauxhall Industrial Estate.

It is fitting that the new venture is in Canterbury; the family-run car dealer group was founded in the cathedral city in 1972, but has expanded to run 15 dealerships across six franchises – Toyota, Lexus, Renault, VW, Nissan and Skoda in Kent and West Sussex employing more than 400 staff.

This geographical and product reach is clearly part of the thinking behind the user car 'supermarket, which can then draw upon the best part exchanges from non-Motorline brands such as: Ford, Vauxhall, Volkswagen, Citroen, Audi and Mercedes-Benz – cars that would not normally be retailed through franchised outlets.

The site also aims to offer a wide range for the budget-conscious, from economical super-minis to MPVs for the bigger family.

Motorline MD Glen Obee said: "With over 35 years operating in the automotive sector in Kent and retailing over 10,000 vehicles a year, Motorline is well placed and experienced to source high quality used cars in the area.

"We're finding that as people have become more cost-conscious over the past 18 months, the market for good, well cared for used cars has grown. Our new facility aims to fulfil that demand."

He added that Motorline All Makes Used Cars will also offer extended warranties, gap insurance and flexible finance options. Potential buyers can also search from the comfort of their own homes as stock listings are updated daily online.

Global Focus on for next year

BRITAIN'S perennial best-selling car is set to go global.

Ford says the next generation Focus will form a major plank in its 'One Ford' strategy to build more cars for sale across the whole world rather than tailored to individual markets.

Production is set to start in Europe and North America late this year, with sales from early 2011 and gradual introduction to different markets – Ford says the third-generation Focus will have 80 per cent parts commonality around the world.

And there is yet more evidence of Ford's bid to drive upmarket away from the budget and mainstream sector that has been its stronghold; the brand speaks of "class-leading new technologies, features and craftsmanship."

The styling is also far better than the current car, which was rather conservative compared with the sharply cut Mark I.

Like the current car, it will also form the platform for several sister models: "Global customers increasingly want smaller cars with outstanding fuel economy, but without sacrificing any of the style, technology, connectivity and driving quality they demand from larger vehicles," said a Ford spokesman.

"Our next generation of C-cars – led by the exciting new Focus – will clearly show that Ford is ready to meet that challenge."

Steve Loader

Model shown, 1.4 16v Veloce at £14,655 OTR including optional Alfa red paint (£410). Range of Official Fuel Economy Figures for the Alfa MiTo range: Extra Urban 53.3 – 78.5 mpg (5.3 – 3.6 l/100km); Urban 33.2 – 47.9 mpg (8.5 – 5.9 l/100km); Combined 43.5 – 62.8 mpg (6.5 – 4.5 l/100km); CO_2 emissions 153 – 119 g/km.

Prices correct at time of going to press.

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- ABS Brakes with EBD
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- Electrically adjustable and heated door mirrors
- 4x20W RDS radio/CD with 2 tweeters and4 speakers
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Just £169 per month with £169 deposit

36 monthly payments of	£169
On the road price	£11,475
Dealer deposit contribution*	£1,722
Customer deposit	£169
Total amount to be financed	£9,584
Acceptance fee	£99
Optional final payment	£4,517
Plus credit facility fee	£139
& option to purchase fee	£10
Total amount payable by customer	£11,018

New Renault Mégane Hatch I-Music 1.6 Special Edition

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- Parking sensors
- ESP with ASR (Anti skid regulation)
- Front fog lights
- Renault keycard
- Front lateral, rear lateral and curtain airbags
- Heated door mirrors
- 4x30W RDS radio/CD with multi-function tunepoint

Just £199 per month with £1,999 deposit

36 monthly payments of	£199
On the road price	£15,817
Dealer deposit contribution*	£2,599
Customer deposit	£1,999
Total amount to be financed	£11,219
Acceptance fee	£99
Optional final payment	£5,287
Plus credit facility fee	£139
& option to purchase fee	£10
Total amount payable by customer	£14,698

Both new I-Music Special Editions include:

- Alloy wheels
- Air conditioning
- Bluetooth and MP3 connectivity

† Subject to a 6,000 miles per annum restriction, excess mileage charged extra (6p per mile + VAT)

5.9% APR TYPICAL

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The official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) for the Mégane Hatch I-Music 1.6 16V 110 are: Urban 30.7 (9.2), Extra Urban 51.4 (5.5), Combined 40.9 (6.9). The official CO2 emission figure is 162g/km and for the Clio I-Music 1.2 16V 75 are: Urban 37.2 (7.6), Extra Urban 57.6 (4.9), Combined 47.9 (5.9). The official CO2 emission figure is 139g/km.

Prices include delivery to dealer, number plates, 17.5% VAT, 12 months' Government road fund licence and £55 first registration fee. *Only available with Renault Selections finance. Finance is subject to status, a guarantor may be required, written quotations on request. Finance provided by Renault UK and RCi Financial Services Limited. P.O. Box 493 Watford WD17 1FJ. These offers are available to retail customers only and apply to vehicles ordered by the 31st January 2010 and registered/delivered by 31st March 2010. Renault UK will pay the VAT difference on each vehicle (excluding factory fitted options). These offers are not available in conjunction with any other offers and are correct at time of going to press. Cars shown have optional metallic paint (option price £395). Examples above exclude cost of optional metallic paint.

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59 Reg Corsa Active 1.2i 16v 3dr
From only £8995
With 4 years 0% APR Typical †(1)
• Air con • Alloy wheels • CD player

(1) Typical finance example for 4 years 0% APR Typical.

CASH PRICE	DEPOSIT	AMOUNT FINANCED	FIRST PAYMENT	46 MONTHLY PAYMENTS	1 FINAL PAYMENT	INTEREST CHARGES	TOTAL CHARGE FOR CREDIT	TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE	
£7995	£3198	£4797	£99.94	£99.94	£99.94	NIL	NIL	£7995	0% TYPICAL APR†

£1000 FINANCE DEPOSIT ALLOWANCE †(2)

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59 Reg Meriva Active 1.4i 16v A/C 5dr
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59 Reg Zafira Active 1.8i 16v 5dr
From only £12795
Inc. £1000 deposit allowance †(2)
• Air con • CD player • Electric windows

All models include balance of manufacturers warranty, many with metallic paint!

(2) Typical finance example for £1000 finance deposit allowance.

CASH PRICE	DEPOSIT (£1000 Paid by WJ King)	AMOUNT FINANCED	FIRST PAYMENT	58 MONTHLY PAYMENTS	1 FINAL PAYMENT	INTEREST CHARGES	TOTAL CHARGE FOR CREDIT	TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE	
£10995	£4000	£6995	£155.57	£155.57	£274.57	£2140.20	£2458.20	£13,453.20	13.1% TYPICAL APR†

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VAUXHALL

(1) 4 years 0% APR is based on a minimum deposit of 40%, available on selected Agila and Corsa models as advertised. (2) Minimum finance amount £5000, minimum finance term 24 months, £1000 finance deposit allowance available on selected Insignia, Meriva and Zafira models as advertised. Finance supplied by Barclays Partner Finance, PO Box 3979, Glasgow G51 1YL. subject to status, over 18's only, a guarantee may be required, written quotations available on request. Savings shown are against MRRP at time of publication. Prices shown are available on selected WJ King stock vehicles only, whilst stocks last and cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer. All offers available to private individuals. Offers apply to selected pre-registered vehicles purchased before 30th January 2010. A £59 inc. VAT admin fee will be added to all vehicle purchases, this includes £20 worth of fuel. WJ King reserves the right to withdraw any offer at any time. Please note, models portrayed are for illustration purposes only and may not represent actual model. Telephone calls may be recorded for training purposes. E&OE.

DrivingReview

by STEVELOADER

CHIEF DRIVING CORRESPONDENT
steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

RenaultKangoo

Even more 'can do'

VAN-based MPVs are the most extreme of 'Marmite Motors' – cars you love or hate.

Inspired originally by the rural French market though, they have become a 'must have' offering for any major motor brand as recession-hit families assess what they really need.

VW, for instance, now sells a seven-seat MPV version of its Caddy van, the Maxi Life, while Fiat, Citroën and Peugeot have been in the business for years.

But the spadework was done by Renault's original Kangoo, landing here in 1999 to underline the French marque's MPV expertise; it sparked the whole MPV market by launching the original Espace in the 1980s, following up with the smaller Scenic.

The Kangoo's no frills interpretation seemed to make even more sense. As a cut-price all-rounder for a self-employed tradesman, it could carry the tools of his trade by day and carry the family in the evenings and at weekends, with access to the rear seats aided by two sliding doors.

Many families also latched onto it as an economical second car/school bus and Renault grew sales further by marketing it to pet lovers and sporting types needing to carry tents, mountain bikes, surfboards and other gear – there was even a Kangoo 4x4 option.

The Kangoo format adds up even more since an all-new model arrived last June. It's still a magnet for the 'Postman Pat' jibes – "Where's the black 'n' white cat then?" was one greeting during this road test – but would-be buyers can be more smug this time around.

For the Kangoo has gone posh without forgetting its roots. It might be based on a van, but the donor chassis now comes from the latest Scenic MPV, boosting ride quality, handling and sophistication against its predecessor, while pegging prices for such a capacious car (£11,438-15,220).

For the Scenic route has given the Kangoo a longer wheelbase for a bigger and more flexible cabin, taking five adults in comfort with three proper seats and acres of space in the back, easily accessed via those sliding doors. Back seats fold in one movement for a completely flat cargo area.

Much attention has been paid to how this ample space is arranged too, though you need to trade up to mid-range Expression trim (as tested) to get the funky stuff like overhead lockers and shelving, folding tables on front seatbacks, multi-position parcel shelf and folding front passenger seat.

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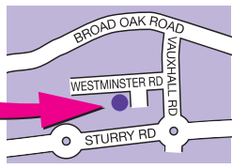

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09 07 Toyota Avensis 2.2 D T4 Diesel 5dr Climate Elc/Wind Sat Nav Alloys 35000 Miles Met Grey.....£10,495
03 53 Mercedes C200 SE Avantgarde Auto 4dr Climate Elc/Pack Alloys Black Met 2 Owners History.....£7,495
07 07 Astra 1.7 CDTi 100 5dr Diesel SRi Aircon Elc/Wind C/Lock Alloys 12000 Miles Black Met.....£9,495

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in the new Kangoo

However, the dashboard betrays the car's van origins; it works well enough, but you are faced by a grim acreage of plastic.

The situation is rescued partly by the glassy airiness of the Kangoo – though some drivers may not be so keen to be seen and outed as Postman Pat fans.

But they can tell doubters that the Kangoo is a genuinely pleasant drive; I expected traditional French 'door handle cornering' but the Scenic platform keeps it well-sorted.

Two 1.6-litre petrol options are offered, but the 1.5dCi diesel is the big draw. I like the flexibility of this engine and Renault underlines the point by selling it with three outputs: 68PS (67bhp), 86PS (85bhp) and 106PS (104bhp).

The first two have less than 140g/km of CO2 emissions, so they qualify for Renault's eco2 'green label' though still attracting £120/year in road tax and £110 after April 1.

The 86PS unit fitted to the test car proved to be about right for the Kangoo, with a good mix of economy and power for a vehicle that may be worked hard as a family troop carrier or even a commercially-operated courtesy vehicle or taxi.

DrivingPortfolio

RENAULT KANGOO 1.5DCI 86 EXPRESSION £13,585

Driving appeal	★★★
Image	★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★
Running costs	★★★★
Reliability	★★★★
How green?	★★★★
Road tax	£120/year
Best rival	Citroën Berlingo Multispace/ Peugeot Partner Tepee

TheVerdict

DON'T LIKE: the plasticky dashboard – a depression-inducing fog grey on the test car

NOT SURE: it will ever shake off the Postman Pat jibes

REALLY LIKE: the Kangoo's total practicality – it really is a 'can do' choice.

KENT DEALERS

MOTORLINE

Ashford	0845 129 4488
Canterbury	0845 129 4483
Maidstone	0845 129 2944

LIFESTYLE

Tunbridge Wells	01892 539466

DAVIS

Sevenoaks	01732 455174

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CRÉATIVE TECHNOLOGIE

CITROËN

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WILMOTHS MAIDSTONE 01622 298469
SUTTON ROAD, MAIDSTONE, KENT ME15 8RD www.wilmothsmaidstone.citroen.co.uk

WILMOTHS ASHFORD 01233 878349
QUANTOCK DRIVE, MAIDSTONE ROAD, ASHFORD, KENT TN24 8TU www.wilmothsashford.citroen.co.uk

ALFA ROMEO

147, 1.9 JTDm 16v DUCATI CORSE Q2, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking diesel drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering single cd player split folding rear seats tonneau cover trip computer twin airbags remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls, black, 10200 miles, £14700, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

159, 2.4 JTDM LUSSO, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint leather interior multiple airbags power steering single cd player trip computer twin airbags front passenger air bag deactivation switch remote central locking, silver over 4000 cars in group stock, 10512 miles, £15000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

BRERA, JTDM SV, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels bluetooth car kit cd player central locking cruise control diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history half leather trim immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering single cd player traction control trip computer twin airbags remote central locking isofix child seat points, touring grey metallic, 16200 miles, £17000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

AUDI

A2, 1.4, 2001, cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser metallic paint tonneau cover twin airbags remote central locking, black, 66439 miles, £4000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

A2, 1.4, 2001, cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser metallic paint tonneau cover twin airbags remote central locking, black, 66439 miles, £4000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

A3 SPORTBACK, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission central locking climate control drivers airbag electric windows heated seats immobiliser metallic paint leather interior load liner power steering satellite navigation traction control remote central locking, black / black, 45800 miles, £15295, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

A6, TVE SE, 2005, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels central locking climate control cruise control diesel electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering reverse parking aid trip computer curtain airbags front passenger air bag deactivation switch remote central locking, mettalic quartz grey, 77512 miles, £9000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

BMW

1 SERIES, ES, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint power fold mirrors multiple airbags power steering sports seats trip computer remote central locking, red, 8880 miles, £10000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

3 SERIES, 320CI SE Automatic, hv53ggz, remote central locking, full leather, centre armrest, height adjustable seat, multi-function steering wheel, power steering, parking sensor, abs, air bag, colour coded body, front fog lamps, electric windows, electric mirrors, dual climate zones, cd player, steering wheel audio controls, immobiliser, alarm, head restraints, lumbar support, sports seats, folding rear seats, rear armrest, rear headrests, adjustable steering column, traction control, metallic paintwork, air conditioning, 17'' alloys, blue, 37000 miles, £8495, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

3 SERIES, 320i SE, 2005, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player central locking climate control cruise control drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser power steering reverse parking aid, blue, 26014 miles, £13000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

3 SERIES, 323I SE, 2000, abs brakes alloys cd player electric windows immobiliser metallic paint power steering twin airbags remote central locking, blue, 95120 miles, £3500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

5 SERIES, 530d SE Auto, 2005, abs brakes air con alarm fitted alloys automatic cd player central locking climate control cruise control drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power steering reverse parking aid satellite navigation, silver, 73557 miles, £12500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

5 SERIES, 530i SE, 2004, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player central locking climate control cruise control drivers airbag electric windows heated seats immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power steering reverse parking aid, silver, 55250 miles, £13000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

5 SERIES, 520d SE, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player central locking climate control cruise control drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power steering reverse parking aid, silver, 73039 miles, £13000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

6 SERIES, 630i Sport Auto, 2007, abs brakes alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player central locking climate control cruise control electric windows heated seats immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power steering reverse parking aid satellite navigation, black, 26500 miles, £28900, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

6 SERIES, 630i Sport Auto, 2007, abs brakes alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player central locking climate control cruise control electric windows heated seats immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power steering reverse parking aid satellite navigation, black, 26500 miles, £28900, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

6 SERIES, 630i Sport Auto, 2007, abs brakes alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player central locking climate control cruise control electric windows heated seats immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power steering reverse parking aid satellite navigation, black, 26500 miles, £28900, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

X3, Sport Auto, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission central locking climate control drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power steering reverse parking aid, silver, 41968 miles, £14500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

X3, 2.5i SPORT, 2004, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering reverse parking aid trip computer twin airbags curtain airbags remote central locking roof bars remote audio controls, grey, 65278 miles, £10000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

X3, Sport Auto, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission central locking climate control drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power steering reverse parking aid, silver, 41968 miles, £14500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

X3, 2.5i SPORT, 2004, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering reverse parking aid trip computer twin airbags curtain airbags remote central locking roof bars remote audio controls, grey, 65278 miles, £10000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

Z3, Z Series Z3 Roadster, p510xgk, remote central locking, immobiliser, power steering, electric windows, electric mirrors, cd player, metallic paintwork, head restraints, 16'' alloys, blue, 55000 miles, £4499, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

Z3, Cabroilet Roadster, 1998, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint leather interior multiple airbags power steering sports seats trip computer, silver, 68951 miles, £4000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

Z4, 3.2, 2007, abs brakes alloy wheels cd player central locking electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint power steering sports seats remote central locking, black, 28137 miles, £20500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

Z4, 3.2, 2007, abs brakes alloy wheels cd player central locking electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint power steering sports seats remote central locking, black, 28137 miles, £20500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

CHEVROLET

KALOS, SX 5dr, sm08kxt, central locking, air conditioning, electric windows, power steering, aluminium silver, 6000 miles, £6495, Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

KALOS, 1.4, 2008, orange, 55 miles, £9985, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

KALOS, 1.4, 2008, orange, 55 miles, £9985, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

KALOS, 1.4, 2008, orange, 55 miles, £9985, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

LACETTI, 1.6, 2008, silver, 50 miles, £7985, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

LACETTI, SX, 2006, abs brakes cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering single cd player twin airbags remote central locking, metallic black, 37700 miles, £4000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

LACETTI, CDX, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering split folding rear seats trip computer twin airbags remote central locking, poly silver, 23500 miles, £5000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

MATIZ, SE, 2005, abs brakes cd player electric windows immobiliser power steering sports seats, silver, 11416 miles, £3000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

MATIZ, SE, 2005, abs brakes cd player electric windows immobiliser power steering sports seats, silver, 11416 miles, £3000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

TACUMA, SX, 2006, air conditioning cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering, black, 12865 miles, £5000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

TACUMA, 1.6, 2008, green, 50 miles, £7985, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

TACUMA, SX, de55 lju, air conditioning, power steering, remote central locking, remote alarm, electric windows, electric mirrors, cloth upholstery, rear wash/wipe, rear headrests, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, abs, twin air bags, cd player, radio, front fog lamps, black, 27600 miles, £3995, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

TACUMA, SX, 2006, air conditioning cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering, black, 12865 miles, £5000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

TACUMA, 1.6, 2008, green, 50 miles, £7985, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

TACUMA, SX, 2006, air conditioning cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering, black, 12865 miles, £5000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

TACUMA, 1.6, 2008, green, 50 miles, £7985, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

CHRYSLER

CROSSFIRE, V6, cx04 gue, air conditioning, full leather, electric seats, heated seats, remote central locking, remote alarm, electric windows, electric mirrors, power steering, height adjustable seat, twin air bags, side air bags, abs, auto-dip rearview, cruise control, adjustable steering column, cd player, radio, front fog lamps, rear spoiler, alloy wheels, blue, 60100 miles, £7495, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

SEBRING, Limited, ko08mxj, remote central locking, immobiliser, full leather, head restraints, power steering, abs, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, cd player, air conditioning, electric windows, stability control, cruise control, multiple airbags, isofix, heated seats, height adjustable seat, electric seats, rear armrest, rear headrests, front fog lamps, powered folding mirrors, 18'' alloys, black, 26000 miles, £8999, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

CITROEN

BERLINGO, Multispace Forte 16v, ak07 zpp, air conditioning, power steering, electric front windows, remote central locking, remote alarm, twin air bags, abs, radio cassette, rear wash/wipe, rear headrests, cloth upholstery, adjustable steering column, beige, 14700 miles, £5995, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

BERLINGO, 1.6HDI Refrigerated Chiller / Freezer, cd player, power steering, electric windows, electric mirrors, remote central locking, brand new. delivery mileage. grp lined. hubbard fridge standby available if required (optional extra). over 50 fridge vans in stock. BHRV.co.uk, white, 15 miles, £9595, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

BERLINGO, Jiffy Hot & Cold Catering Truck, fn04zvv, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, power steering, air bag, electric windows, electric mirrors, radio cassette, refrigerated display, heated display, hand wash facilities. white, 0 miles, £8995, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

BERLINGO, Jiffy Hot & Cold Catering Truck, w173knu, large fridge. large oven. hot & cold water. ambient section. white, 77000 miles, £6995, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

C-CROSSER, 5, gf08okk, remote central locking electric windows abs traction control air conditioning power steering drivers airbag passenger airbag cruise control full leather interior full leather interior ltd edition up to 47 mpg the green 4 x 4, beige, 8000 miles, £17795, Ashford, 01233 640100 (TRADE)

C1, 5, lg08fwj, central locking front electric windows abs air conditioning power steering drivers airbag passenger airbag immobiliser, black, 4760 miles, £6995, Ashford, 01233 640100 (TRADE)

C1, Rhythem, 2006, abs brakes cd player electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering remote central locking isofix child seat points, red, 25731 miles, £5000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C1, Rythm, 2008, abs brakes cd player drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser power steering trip computer, black, 10 miles, £7500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C2, Desire, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint power fold mirrors multiple airbags power steering sports seats trip computer remote central locking, artic steel, 11551 miles, £7000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

C2, SX, 2004, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering, mauve/purple, 33902 miles, £5000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

C2, 1.4 HDI L, 2005, cd player diesel drivers airbag electric windows full service history immobiliser metallic paint power steering trip computer twin airbags remote central locking remote audio controls, arctic steel, 71845 miles, £4500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

C2, Desire, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint power fold mirrors multiple airbags power steering sports seats trip computer remote central locking, artic steel, 11551 miles, £7000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

C2, SX, 2004, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering, mauve/purple, 33902 miles, £5000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

C2, 1.4 HDI L, 2005, cd player diesel drivers airbag electric windows full service history immobiliser metallic paint power steering trip computer twin airbags remote central locking remote audio controls, arctic steel, 71845 miles, £4500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

RELAY, 1100 2.0 HDi Refrigerated Chiller, lv05dxt, grp lined. gah fridge. over fifty fridge vans in stock. www.BHRV.co.uk, white, 60000 miles, £5995, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

RELAY, 3 33 L3 H, 2009, white, 5000 miles, £17000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

DAIHATSU

SIRION, SE 5dr, pn56usg, anti-theft system, central locking, immobiliser, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, air conditioning, electric windows, abs, multiple airbags, power steering, electric mirrors, cd player, colour coded body, rear wash/wipe, alloy wheels, blue, 28000 miles, £5995, Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

SIRION, S, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning cd player drivers airbag immobiliser multiple airbags power steering single cd player split folding rear seats remote central locking, red, 12500 miles, £5500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

SIRION, S, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning cd player drivers airbag immobiliser multiple airbags power steering single cd player split folding rear seats remote central locking, red, 12500 miles, £5500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

SIRION, S, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning cd player drivers airbag immobiliser multiple airbags power steering single cd player split folding rear seats remote central locking, red, 12500 miles, £5500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

FIAT

500, 1.4 Sport 3dr Hatch, wn58wcy, pas, abs, remote central locking, front electric windows, front fog lights, radio/cd, side airbags, electricdoor mirrors, drivers airbag, isofix child seat anchor points, body coloured bumpers, height adjustable drivers seat, sports seats, traction control, space saver spare wheel, tropicalia yellow, 15 miles, £10995, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

500, Pop, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint power fold mirrors multiple airbags power steering sports seats trip computer remote central locking, black, 5000 miles, £8000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

500, Sport, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels bluetooth car kit cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows full service history immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering trip computer twin airbags remote central locking isofix child seat points, pasodoble red, 1800 miles, £10000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

500, 1.2, 2008, abs brakes cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser, red, 55 miles, £14000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

500, 1.4 POP, 2009, abs brakes cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser multiple airbags power steering single cd player trip computer twin airbags front remote central locking, white over 4000 cars in group stock, 500 miles, £10000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, 16v, 2008, cd player drivers airbag, red, 55 miles, £14000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, SPORT, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels bluetooth car kit electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser mp3 player multiple airbags power steering single cd player trip computer curtain airbags remote central locking remote audio controls, orange, 7138 miles, £9500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, 1.4 SPORT, 2008, abs brakes air con alloys bluetooth car kit cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser multiple airbags power steering single cd player tonneau cover trip computer twin airbags front passenger air bag deactivation switch remote central locking remote audio controls, calypso orange, 7410 miles, £10000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

BRAVO, Mulitijet Active, 2007, abs brakes air con alarm fitted cd player diesel electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering sports seats trip computer remote central locking dual passenger seat, grey, 12189 miles, £8000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

BRAVO, Dynamic, 2008, abs brakes cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking, black, 15580 miles, £8000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

BRAVO, 1.4 dynamic, 2008, abs brakes alls cd player central locking climate control cruise control drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint mp3 player multiple airbags power steering single cd player tinted glass twin airbags curtain airbags, digital grey, 13281 miles, £8000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FORD

C-MAX, 1.6TDCI ZETEC 5DR, wv58ezh, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, electric mirrors, electric windows, heated screen, metallic paintwork, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, privacy glass, remote central locking. insurance group:7, please contact alistair mcewen, black, 22820 miles, £10990, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

C-MAX, 1.6TDCI TITANIUM 110 5DR [DPF], ea58axk, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, electric mirrors, remote locking, colour coding body. insurance group:8, blue, 3741 miles, £13995, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 3, lx02xsb, insurance group 6 alloy wheels body coloured bumpers central locking drivers airbag folding rear seats front electric windows front fog lights height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser power steering radio/cd trip computer 2 owners service history, steel blue, 44000 miles, £3000, Crayford, 01322 281525 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 5, md06fwo, insurance group 6 abs air conditioning body coloured bumpers drivers airbag electricdoor mirrors folding rear seats front electric windows heated door mirrors height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser passenger airbag power steering radio/cd remote central locking 1 owner service history, tonic blue, 17000 miles, £6000, Crayford, 01322 281525 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 3, hg07nre, insurance group 13 abs air conditioning alarm alloy wheels audio remote control body coloured bumpers drivers airbag electricdoor mirrors folding rear seats front electric windows heated door mirrors height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser leather seats passenger airbag power steering radio/cd multichanger remote central locking sports seats trip computer service history, performance blue, 32000 miles, £7483, Crayford, 01322 281525 (TRADE)

FOCUS, Style, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering, black, 11745 miles, £10000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FOCUS, Style, 2008, abs brakes central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering, silver, 11677 miles, £10000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FOCUS, STYLE AUTO, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning automatic transmission cd player central locking metallic paint multiple airbags power steering split folding rear seats tinted glass curtain airbags remote central locking remote audio controls, ocean blue, 14130 miles, £9000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FOCUS, ST-3, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking climate control drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering reverse parking aid satellite navigation single cd player sound pack split folding rear seats sports seats tinted glass trip computer front parking sensors, orange, 10000 miles, £17000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FUSION, Fusion, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering trip computer, morello purple, 2925 miles, £9600, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

FUSION, Zetec, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint power steering single cd player split folding rear seats trip computer front passenger air bag deactivation switch remote central locking quickclear windscreen, blue, 6000 miles, £6500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

FUSION, Zetec Climate 1.6 Duratec En, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint reverse parking aid split folding rear seats traction control trip computer remote central locking auto headlights and wipers, moondust silver, 2444 miles, £10000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

FUSION, ZETEC CLIMATE, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint power steering split folding rear seats tinted glass twin airbags remote central locking quickclear windscreen, amethyst, 18158 miles, £6000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

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2006 56 SAAB 9-3 1.9TiD Vector Sport, 4 Doors, Manual, Saloon, Diesel, 111,000 miles, Met grey. Heated door mirrors, Radio/CD, Rear headrests, Steering wheel reach adjustment, Cruise control, Front electric windows, Alloy wheels, Immobiliser, Electric door mirrors, Rear electric windows, ABS, Sports seats, Front fog lights, Front head restraints, Remote central locking, Drivers airbag, Anti theft system, Electric mirrors, Alarm, Front armrest, PAS, Air con, Central locking, C/C, Foglights, FSH. Sat Nav, Mobile phone Bluetooth connection. Buisness Pack. 6 Speed gearbox **£8,295**

2004 SAAB 9-3 1.9TiD Linear , 4 Doors, Manual, Diesel, 50,000 miles, Metallic Steel Grey. ABS, Air conditioning, Alarm, Alloy wheels, Cloth seat trim, Full Electric Pack, Full Service History, Park distance control, Traction control..... ..... **£7,495**

2005 05 SAAB 9-3 1.8T Linear Sport , 4 Doors, Automatic, Saloon, Petrol, 63,277 miles, Metallic Grey, 2 Owners. Cruise control, Alloy wheels, Immobiliser, Multi function steering wheel, ABS, Cloth seat trim, Full Electric Pack, Reverse parking aid, Part Service History, Air conditioning, Climate Control, Park distance control..... **£7,295**

2002 52 SAAB 9-5 2.3HOT Aero , 4 Doors, Manual, Saloon, Petrol, 73,000 miles, Steel Grey. ABS, Alloy wheels, Full Electric Pack, Cruise control, Park distance control, Sports seats, Traction control, Climate control, In Car Entertainment, Warranty, Leather upholstery, Metallic paintwork, Tinted glass. **£5,495**

2001 Y SAAB 9-3 2.2 TiD SE , 5 Doors, Manual, Hatchback, Diesel, 122,000 miles, Metallic blue, 2 Owners. Rear wiper, ABS, Air conditioning, Heated door mirrors, Alloy wheels, Cruise control, Folding rear seats, Immobiliser, Radio/CD, Rear headrests, Steering wheel reach adjustment, Front electric windows, Electric door mirrors, Rear electric windows, Audio remote control, Front head restraints, Front fog lights, Central locking, Passenger airbag, Remote central locking, Foglights, Drivers airbag, Trip computer, Full Service History, Alarm, Climate Control, Cloth upholstery, Headlight washers, Body coloured bumpers, Rear armrest, PAS, Child locks, Service indicator. Insurance Group: 12..... **£3,295**

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CARENS, 5, lv56ffa, insurance group 9 abs air conditioning body coloured bumpers drivers airbag electricdoor mirrors folding rear seats front electric windows front fog lights heated door mirrors height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser leather seats passenger airbag power steering radio/cd rear electric windows remote central locking roof rails steering wheel rake adjustment, cool silver, 28000 miles, £6995, Beckenham, 0208 662 6133 (TRADE)

RIO, 5, lc58rgv, insurance group 4 abs air con alloys central locking drivers airbag folding rear seats front electric windows front fog lights height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser passenger airbag power steering radio/cd steering wheel rake adjustment, clear silver, 5178 miles, £8695, Beckenham, 0208 662 6133 (TRADE)

RIO, 5, kk57nze, insurance group 4 abs air conditioning body coloured bumpers central locking drivers airbag folding rear seats front electric windows height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser passenger airbag power steering radio/cd steering wheel rake adjustment, sapphire blue, 8000 miles, £7995, Beckenham, 0208 662 6133 (TRADE)

MITSUBISHI

LANCER, Equippe, 2007, abs brakes alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint power steering single cd player split folding rear seats trip computer remote central locking, grey, 21000 miles, £7000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

LANCER, Equippe, 2007, abs brakes alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint power steering single cd player split folding rear seats trip computer remote central locking, grey, 21000 miles, £7000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

NISSAN

350Z, 3.5 V6, 2005, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint power fold mirrors leather interior power steering single cd player sports seats trip computer remote central locking, blue, 31000 miles, £13000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

MICRA, E 3dr, sh03 btz, power steering, abs, remote central locking, remote alarm, electric front windows, rear wash/wipe, cloth upholstery, adjustable steering column, cd player, radio cassette, twin air bags, alloy wheels, silver, 37500 miles, £3795, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

MICRA, S 3 DOOR, 2004, abs brakes cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser metallic paint power steering single cd player twin airbags remote central locking, blue, 40265 miles, £3000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

PEUGEOT

206, 5, x332blk, insurance group 4 alarm audio remote control body coloured bumpers climate control drivers airbag electricdoor mirrors folding rear seats front electric windows front fog lights heated door mirrors height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser passenger airbag power steering radio/cassette radio/cd multichanger remote central locking service indicator steering wheel rake adjustment trip computer 2 owners, star silver, 34000 miles, £3000, Crayford, 01322 281525 (TRADE)

206 SW, S, 54, 5 doors, manual, estate, diesel, 55, 000 miles, metallic blue. air conditioning and usual accessories. excellent condition inside and out with full peugeot service history, one year's mot and 6 months' tax. lively and economical small diesel estate car with roof rails, and roof bars available if required. one private owner (non-smoker). £4350 ono. no canvassers or agencies, please. phone, text or email: kayinjaman@gmail.com, blue, £4350, Simon Green, kent, 07719666446 (PRIVATE)

307, GT, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning alloys cd player central locking diesel drivers airbag electric windows full service history immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering single cd player split folding rear seats sports seats remote central locking, silver, 13000 miles, £8500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

307, Sport, 2007, abs brakes alloy wheels cd player cruise control electric windows front fog lights immobiliser power fold mirrors leather interior multiple airbags power steering sports seats trip computer remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls, grey, 14000 miles, £7000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

406, LX HDI 110 diesel cheap tax, 2001, silver, 147985 miles, £1595, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

407, HDi 136 Sport, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking climate control cruise control drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power fold mirrors power steering reverse parking aid satellite navigation sunroof, red, 79080 miles, £7000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

407, Executive, 2006, silver, 29842 miles, £7600, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

PROTON

GEN-2, Gen 2 GLS Step4 Cloth 5dr, gj58hcl, air conditioning, electric windows, cd player, radio, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, power steering, twin air bags, head restraints, velour trim, remote central locking, immobiliser, abs, folding rear seats, rear headrests, 15'' alloys, metallic grey, 4400 miles, £5999, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

WIRA, Exi 5dr auto, bf52ura, power steering, air bag, electric windows, electric mirrors, air conditioning, cd player, immobiliser, cloth upholstery, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, head restraints, 15'' alloys, blue, 70000 miles, £2699, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

RENAULT

CLIO, Dynamique 16v 5dr, fn07sgz, remote central locking, immobiliser, power steering, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, electric mirrors, air conditioning, cd player, height adjustable seat, folding rear seats, rear headrests, front fog lamps, abs, multiple airbags, isofix, adjustable steering column, electric front windows, 15'' alloys, aluminium silver, 29000 miles, £6999, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

ESPACE, 3.00, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking climate control electric windows full service history immobiliser metallic paint power fold mirrors multiple airbags, black, 44 miles, £27490, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

ESPACE, 3.00, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player climate control diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights half leather trim heated seats metallic paint leather interior power steering satellite navigation, black, 44 miles, £27500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

GRAND SCENIC, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering, silver, 21262 miles, £7300, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

GRAND SCENIC, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering single cd player split folding rear seats trip computer front passenger air bag deactivation switch remote central locking isofix child seat points, red, 43000 miles, £6000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

LAGUNA, Privilege, 2001, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player electric windows front fog lights immobiliser multiple airbags power steering reverse parking aid trip computer, cosmic grey, 40000 miles, £3000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

LAGUNA, Privilege, 2002, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player diesel electric windows front fog lights half leather trim immobiliser metallic paint power fold mirrors multiple airbags power steering reverse parking aid sports seats sun roof trip computer remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls, black, 53587 miles, £5000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

MEGANE, SI Oasis 16v 5dr, fy55 pzo, power steering, air conditioning, panoramic sunroof, electric sunroof, abs, electric windows, electric mirrors, powered folding mirrors, remote central locking, remote alarm, rear headrests, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, cd player, radio, centre armrest, twin air bags, curtain airbags, auto lighting, alloy wheels, red, 42600 miles, £5495, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

MEGANE, SI Oasis Expression 16v 3dr, en05 nwr, air conditioning, panoramic sunroof, electric sunroof, power steering, abs, electric front windows, electric mirrors, cd player, radio, remote central locking, remote alarm, front fog lamps, rear wash/wipe, rear headrests, powered folding mirrors, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, twin air bags, curtain airbags, auto lighting, silver, 60300 miles, £4995, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

ROVER

25, iL, 2002, abs brakes cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser metallic paint power steering single cd player split folding rear seats remote central locking, blue, 57000 miles, £2100, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

25, CITY ROVER SPRITE 1.4 5DR, 2003, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels central locking electric windows immobiliser metallic paint single cd player split folding rear seats twin airbags curtain airbags front passenger air bag deactivation switch, aqua, 20773 miles, £3000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

25, Impression, 2002, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking electric windows metallic paint power steering single cd player split folding rear seats remote central locking, gold, 57000 miles, £2300, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

25, iL, 2002, abs brakes cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser metallic paint power steering single cd player split folding rear seats remote central locking, blue, 57000 miles, £2100, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

25, Impression, 2002, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking electric windows metallic paint power steering single cd player split folding rear seats remote central locking, gold, 57000 miles, £2300, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

25, iL, 2002, abs brakes cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser metallic paint power steering single cd player split folding rear seats remote central locking, blue, 57000 miles, £2100, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

25, CITY ROVER SPRITE 1.4 5DR, 2003, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels central locking electric windows immobiliser metallic paint single cd player split folding rear seats twin airbags curtain airbags front passenger air bag deactivation switch, aqua, 20773 miles, £3000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

25, Impression, 2002, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking electric windows metallic paint power steering single cd player split folding rear seats remote central locking, gold, 57000 miles, £2300, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

SEAT

ALHAMBRA, 1.9, 2008, central locking electric windows immobiliser multi cd player, silver, 44 miles, £23000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

ALHAMBRA, 1.9, 2008, red, 44 miles, £23400, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

ALHAMBRA, 1.9, 2008, blue, 44 miles, £23300, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

ALHAMBRA, TDI PD 130 SE, 2003, abs brakes alloys cd player diesel immobiliser multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking, black, 53177 miles, £6500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

ALHAMBRA, 1.9, 2008, abs brakes cd player central locking electric windows, silver, 55 miles, £23500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

ALHAMBRA, 1.9, 2008, central locking electric windows immobiliser cd player, silver, 44 miles, £23000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

ALHAMBRA, 1.9, 2008, abs brakes cd player central locking electric windows, silver, 55 miles, £23500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

ALHAMBRA, TDI PD 130 SE, 2003, abs brakes alloys cd player diesel immobiliser multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking, black, 53177 miles, £6500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

ALHAMBRA, Reference, 2007, abs brakes cd player central locking diesel drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser metallic paint power steering single cd player split folding rear seats front passenger air bag deactivation switch remote central locking, silver, 54000 miles, £9500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

IBIZA, Sport, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloys cd player central locking diesel drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering single cd player split folding rear seats sports seats remote central locking, grey, 26000 miles, £7500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

IBIZA, 1.4 TDi reference sport, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player electric windows front fog lights immobiliser multiple airbags power steering sports seats remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls, red, 16474 miles, £7000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

IBIZA, Reference, 2007, abs brakes cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser metallic paint power steering single cd player split folding rear seats trip computer remote central locking, grey, 26200 miles, £6000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

IBIZA, Reference, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning cd player drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser metallic paint power steering single cd player split folding rear seats trip computer remote central locking, blue, 23200 miles, £6000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

LEON, Reference, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking diesel drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering single cd player split folding rear seats trip computer twin airbags isofix child seat points, metallic grey, 42100 miles, £10000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

LEON, Reference Sport, 2005, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering single cd player split folding rear seats sports seats trip computer front passenger air bag deactivation switch remote central locking, grey, 35000 miles, £8800, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

LEON, CR FR, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels bluetooth car kit cd player central locking climate control cruise control diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser power fold mirrors multiple airbags power steering single cd player sports seats tinted glass traction control trip computer front passenger air bag deactivation switch remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls, grey, 3000 miles, £16000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

SKODA

FABIA, 5, wv02cys, insurance group 6 abs air conditioning alarm alloy wheels body coloured bumpers drivers airbag electricdoor mirrors folding rear seats front electric windows front fog lights heated door mirrors heated front seat height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser passenger airbag power steering radio/cassette rear electric windows remote central locking steering wheel rake adjustment steering wheel reach adjustment traction control trip computer, green, 40505 miles, £3695, Beckenham, 0208 662 6133 (TRADE)

FABIA, TDI PD 80 2, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player diesel electric windows immobiliser power fold mirrors multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking, 2007, 17939 miles, £8000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

FABIA, 1.2 classic, 2007, abs brakes immobiliser power steering twin airbags, blue, 21000 miles, £4500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

FABIA, 1.2 classic, 2007, abs brakes immobiliser power steering twin airbags, blue, 21000 miles, £4500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

SUZUKI

JIMNY, JLX MODE SPECIAL EDITION, 2003, abs brakes central locking electric windows immobiliser metallic paint cd player tinted glass twin airbags remote central locking, silky silver, 35000 miles, £4000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

JIMNY, JLX MODE SPECIAL EDITION, 2003, abs brakes cd player central locking electric windows immobiliser metallic paint power steering single cd player tinted glass twin airbags remote central locking, silky silver, 35000 miles, £4000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

JIMNY, JLX MODE SPECIAL EDITION, 2003, abs brakes cd player central locking electric windows immobiliser metallic paint power steering single cd player tinted glass twin airbags remote central locking, silky silver, 35000 miles, £4000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

SWIFT, DDiS, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player diesel electric windows front fog lights immobiliser multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking, black, 75120 miles, £6000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

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£8845	£2636	£450	£3086	£99.02

Total Amount Payable	Total Charge for Credit inc Purchase fee	Optional Final Payment	
£9326.48	£481.48	£3854	4.9% APR Typical

Mileage based on 12,000 miles per annum. Excess mileage charged at 0.06p+VAT per mile

Brand New **Ford Fiesta** Zetec 1.25 3dr

Cash Price	Customer Deposit	Deposit Contribution from Ford	Total Deposit	24 Monthly Payments
£11995	£3167	£450	£3617	£149.03

Total Amount Payable	Total Charge for Credit inc Purchase fee	Optional Final Payment	
£12684.72	£689.72	£5481	4.9% APR

Mileage based on 12,000 miles per annum. Excess mileage charged at 0.06p+VAT per mile

Brand New **Ford Mondeo** Titanium 2.2 TDCi 5dr

Cash Price	Customer Deposit	Deposit Contribution from Ford	Total Deposit	24 Monthly Payments
£18995	£5071	£1000	£6071	£249.01

Total Amount Payable	Total Charge for Credit inc Purchase fee	Optional Final Payment	
£20030.24	£1035.24	£7973	4.9% APR

Mileage based on 12,000 miles per annum. Excess mileage charged at 0.08p+VAT per mile

Brand New **Ford Focus** Zetec 1.8 5dr

Cash Price	Customer Deposit	Deposit Contribution from Ford	Total Deposit	24 Monthly Payments
£15395	£3713	£1500	£5213	£219.04

Total Amount Payable	Total Charge for Credit inc Purchase fee	Optional Final Payment	
£16184.96	£789.96	£5705	4.9% APR

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UK PLC recovery set back further by the big freeze

By **STEVE LOADER**

BUSINESS leaders in Kent have issued a depressing new year health check on the UK economy – the patient could flatline for 12 months with recovery checked by the recent big freeze.

The Institute of Directors (IoD), speaking for business leaders and entrepreneurs across the county, drew on various factors to forecast negligible GDP growth at just 0.5 per cent in 2010, and 1.5 per cent in 2011. Its prognosis is a shock though after upbeat results for Christmas trading (the best since 2005) and the South East manufacturing sector (sales up 12 per cent in 2009).

Nevertheless, acting chairman of the Kent IoD branch, Andrew Metcalf, said there was a risk of a double or even a triple dip before real economic recovery.

"We are currently experiencing what is being described as a 'treacle economy', rendered slow and sticky partly by a sense of stagnation as we wait for the general election," he said.

"With very limited growth it would suggest the economy looks set to bump along the bottom with little upturn. It could be described as an L-shaped recovery.

"January is notoriously difficult for many businesses, as they struggle with poor cash flow and sales as a result of the festive break.

"The big freeze, which caused significant difficulties for thousands of businesses already finding the economic climate tough, couldn't have come at a worse time.

"Money supply for many companies remains very weak and it is difficult to believe a sustained recovery can be established until this situation changes."

Even as a general election result clears a restraint on recovery, it creates another, warned IoD chief economist Graeme Leach, in the form of government belt-tightening, though he suggested this would be less negative if it comes via lower spending rather than higher taxation.

FORECAST: IoD's Andrew Metcalf

He added: "We are very doubtful of a sharp bounce back in 2010. It would seem that de-leveraging and debt reduction are the priorities for consumers and companies and until this balance sheet adjustment process fully unwinds we don't believe sustainable growth will occur. Yes, there could be an occasional spurt of activity, but the next two years look pretty glum."

However, retailers claimed a serious return of consumer confidence over Christmas and New Year.

The Retail Sales Monitor produced by the British Retail Consortium (BRC) and accountancy/audit giant KPMG reported that UK shop sales rose 4.2 per cent against December, 2008, and, when other factors were taken account of, this represented actual growth of six per cent with food sales, clothing and footwear leading the charge, while internet, mail order and phone sales shot up 26.5 year on year in December.

"These are stronger figures than we dared hope for," said BRC director general Stephen Robertson. "This is the best total sales growth for a December since 2005, and goes well beyond just making up for the sales fall the sector suffered a year ago."

But he warned: "With customers now reacquainting themselves with concerns about jobs and tax rises there's a risk a healthy December may be only a temporary respite on the painful road to recovery."

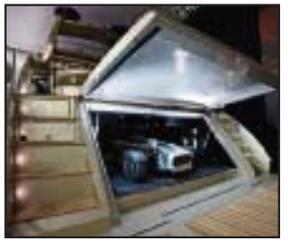
KPMG's retail spokesman Helen Dickinson said Christmas, 2009, allowed strong retailers to "strut their stuff" and she expected further figures to highlight those who got it right and those that did not, but she was also cautious about the year ahead.

One of the traders 'who got it right' was department store chain House of Fraser, which has two of its most modern outlets in Kent – at Maidstone and Bluewater – and saw sales rise 7.1 per cent in the eight weeks ahead of January 2.

It also enjoyed its biggest ever Christmas week, with sales on Boxing Day up 27 per cent against 2008.

Retailing colossus, Tesco, which holds a third of the supermarket sector, also blew away gloom by hoisting sales five per cent in the six weeks ahead of 9 January – two per cent better than City predictions.

Optimists will take most heart though from legal firm Thomas Eggar's Manufacturing Index, which focused on the South East's top 100 manufacturers to show an average growth of 12 per cent in sales last year.



SHIPSHAPE: Caterham onboard

Glamorous Caterham is small change for wealthy

SPORTS car maker Caterham and super yacht builder Sunseeker have allied to create the ultimate expression of the millionaire lifestyle.

The Dartford-based maker of the Caterham Seven currently has one of the two-seat performance icons stowed in the garage area at the stern of a Sunseeker Predator 108 at the London International Boat Show 2010.

Usually reserved for a small sports boat, the manufacturers are suggesting it could also be used to enable well-heeled buyers to make a doubly glamorous arrival in the harbours of Monaco, St Tropez and Cannes.

But while the Predator's part in this display would cost more than £7 million, the Kent sports car – based on the legendary Lotus Seven – starts from just £12,995. Small change.

LORD OF THE MANOR: Dominic and his wife Stephanie bought the property in 2004

Business award will allow hidden gem to continue its growth

By **JANE CONNOLLY**
jane.connolly@kosmedia.co.uk

OVER the last three years, the Secret Gardens of Sandwich have blossomed into one of Kent's leading tourism businesses.

The gardens were named joint winners in the leisure and tourism category at the KOS Media £1 Million Business Challenge Awards. Alongside co-winner Chatham Historic Dockyard, the attraction was awarded a significant marketing, PR and advertising package to help support its continued growth.

Husband and wife Dominic and Stephanie Parker bought the neglected property, The Salutation, in 2004. Since then they have turned the rundown manor house and overgrown gardens into a blooming tourist attraction.

"It was an absolute shock to win, to be honest," Mr Parker said.

"It was a complete surprise and we were very honoured to be chosen alongside Chatham Historic Dockyard, which is a tremendous organisation. We were very thrilled to have been included with such excellent businesses."

When the Parkers began the multi-million-pound project they knew about the pedigree of the house, but had no idea what an outstanding garden they would uncover.

The Salutation was commissioned by the Farrer brothers in 1911, who wanted a restful place to enjoy the coastal air.

To achieve this, they employed renowned architect Sir Edwin Lutyens and the result is a beautiful house that boasts a complementary relationship with its gardens.

Also designed by Lutyens, the grounds feature strong architectural lines, tree-lined avenues and framing effects achieved with the use of archways and hedges.

WELCOME HOME: The Salutation in Sandwich saw a 100 per cent rise in tourist numbers

Lutyens was a frequent collaborator with the legendary horticulturalist Gertrude Jekyll and her influence can be seen in the stunning design of the grounds.

After all their hard work, the prize offered by the Business Challenge Awards will help the Parkers to take their business even further.

Humdinger

"It will go a long way towards confirming our position on the map," Mr Parker said.

"It will considerably help to raise awareness of us and what we're trying to do here with the restoration project. I also think it will be fantastic for Sandwich, which is a hitherto unsung gem within Kent."

Their third summer since opening to the public has been the most successful yet, with visitor numbers up by 100 per cent on last year and the future looking good for continued growth.

"I do think we have started from a low base because we are a very old property," Mr Parker said. "The gardens used to be open 25 years ago and we have fallen off the map. It will take a long time for everybody in the gardening fraternity to be aware of us and to consider us alongside the likes of Sissinghurst Castle Garden, which is a humdinger of a garden.

"We have received compliments to the effect that people think our gardens are nicer, but different. We hope to give Sissinghurst a run for its money."

Find out more about the Secret Gardens of Sandwich by visiting the website at www.thesecretgardens.co.uk.

To see this, search 'garden'
@ yourkenttv.co.uk

Dominic Parker explains the transformation of the Secret Garden back to its former glory

Santander re-brand sends out message to community

SPANISH-based banking giant Santander is giving charities a boost as a way to publicise its re-branding of 29 branches of the former Abbey, and Bradford and Bingley, building societies across Kent.

The bank is asking its customers to decide which charities are to benefit in their local area – up to £7,250 will be distributed to local good causes and £250,000 across the UK under the Community Chest scheme.

Santander launched the promotion to strengthen relationships in communities served by the relevant branches, and raise the profile of those charitable organisations seen as making a difference in their areas.

Every branch has nominated three local causes and customers visiting a branch from now until February 26 can vote for their favourite – with each winner receiving a share of the pot.

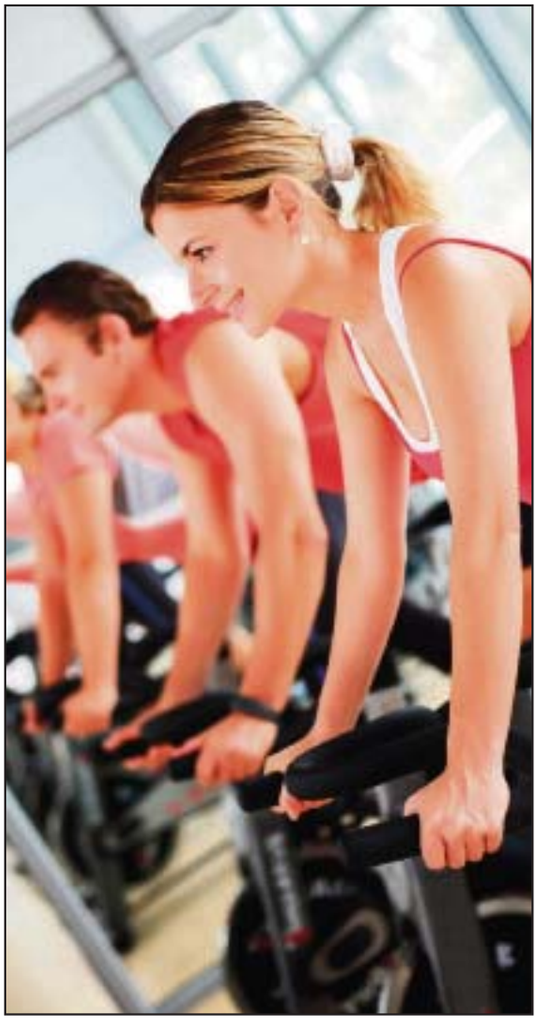
Santander community relations manager Christianne Carrick said: "It's part of Santander's ongoing commitment to local communities, with more than £5 million donated to good causes last year."

The bank, founded in Spain in 1857, has grown rapidly across Europe in recent years and claims to be the most efficient now operating in the UK.

It operates two retail businesses here: the re-branded Santander, formed from the Abbey, and Bradford and Bingley – acquired in 2004 and 2008 respectively – and the Alliance and Leicester, also taken over in 2008.

The two chains have more than 1,300 branches, around 4,500 cash machines and deliver retail and corporate banking services to 25 million customers.

Corporate health can equate to corporate wealth



WORD TO THE WISE: Anna Daniels (below) believes that keeping your workforce healthy benefits your company

By **STEVE LOADER**
steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

NEW year brings a flurry of resolutions to get fit and lose weight, but such individual efforts are often doomed to failure.

But fitness experts say there is a strong argument for businesses to start helping staff to stick to the regime to make them fitter for work and to help battle stress, especially with a recession still on.

"The effect staff have on a business is huge," said Anna Daniels, managing director of the Daniels Fitness Group, in response to the perennial rash of failed resolutions.

"A healthy, happy workforce has been proven to be more productive, take less time off sick and individuals are less likely to look for a new job – as many will be doing in January."

Her organisation has worked with companies in Kent and the South East for 20 years. She added: "Whether you have two or 2,000 on your payroll, don't underestimate the influence employees have on the success of your company – corporate health really does equate to corporate wealth."

Programmes can be be everything from a monthly information seminar on healthy eating to a weekly activity such as a Pilates or a self-defence class.

High-flying fitness experts at the RAF have also chipped in with cost-effective no-nonsense new year tips.

Corporal Simon Wray, a former TV Gladiator winner and training instructor said the RAF Fit for Life regime can be downloaded from the RAF website, tailored to ability and followed anywhere, with no need for expensive gym memberships or equipment.

Getting into shape could also combat stress at a time when the recession is adding to the levels faced by workers, according to research from Clydesdale Bank.

Two thirds (66 per cent) of those surveyed say the recession had affected their working lives, with nearly one in five (18.8) working up to 10 hours more per week.

More than one in five (20.8) workers across the region say they are now more stressed at work, and nearly half (49.7) believe it is now harder to achieve a balance between work and their private lives.

Younger employees appear to suffer most from increased anxiety due to the recession, with more than a third of those aged 16-24 admitting to feeling more stressed at work

Paul Saunders, of Clydesdale Bank's Financial Solutions Centres in Kent, said: "It is important for economic recovery that the UK's workers are focused on helping their business to survive.

"However, it is essential that employers ensure they are offering their employees as much support as possible, to help them achieve a balance that results in happy and productive employees."

KEY TIPS RAF FIT FOR LIFE

1. 30 minutes of exercise, three to five times a week is a good amount of exercise and realistic too. Break this down into manageable 10 minute slots.
2. Combine a full range of stomach exercises with aerobic exercise to help build up that six-pack or washboard stomach.
3. Don't just focus on one area. Do a range of exercises to tone your whole body.
4. Warm up – avoid static stretching, perform dynamic stretching to warm up specific muscles for the exercise you're about to undertake.
5. Cool down – perform static stretching. Hold the stretch for at least 20 seconds.

MORTGAGE RATES

RT: Rate type **R%:** Rate percentage **L:** Loan **U:** Until **OD:** Other details

FIXED

WOOLWICH
RT: FIXED **R%:** 3.79% **L:** 70% **U:** 30/04/2012
OD: £1,304

PRINCIPALITY
RT: FIXED **R%:** 4.59% **L:** 75% **U:** 31/01/2012
OD: £1,039

MORTGAGE BOX
RT: FIXED **R%:** 4.19% **L:** 70% **U:** 31/12/2011
OD: £1,529

FIRST ACTIVE – RBS
RT: FIXED **R%:** 5.29% **L:** 75% **U:** 31/03/2013
OD: £829

OTHER

NORTHERN ROCK
RT: TRACKER **R%:** 2.79% **L:** 70% **U:** 01/03/2012
OD: £1,030

ABBEY
RT: TRACKER **R%:** 2.69% **L:** 70% **U:** 2 YEARS
OD: £1,030

MORTGAGE BOX
RT: TRACKER **R%:** 2.79% **L:** 70% **U:** 2 YEARS
OD: £1,010

ALLIANCE & LEICESTER
RT: TRACKER **R%:** 1.99% **L:** 70% **U:** 2 YEARS
OD: £2,030

• THESE RATES CANNOT BE GUARANTEED AND ARE CORRECT AT THE TIME OF GOING TO PRESS

OPEN MARKET ANNUITY RATES FOR MATURING PENSION FUNDS – PER £10,000

* ASSUME 50% INCOME FOR SPOUSE OF SAME AGE ON ANNUITANTS DEATH, PAYABLE MONTHLY IN ADVANCE WITHOUT ESCALATION, RATE IS PER £10,000 OF FUND MATURED AND ASSUME THE CLIENT IS IN GOOD HEALTH

MALE AGED 60		FEMALE AGED 60	
CANADA LIFE	£549	CANADA LIFE	£537
LEGAL & GENERAL	£543	AVIVA	£527
AVIVA	£521	LEGAL & GENERAL	£517
AEGON SE	£511	STANDARD LIFE	£496
PRUDENTIAL	£507	PRUDENTIAL	£496

MALE AGED 65		FEMALE AGED 65	
CANADA LIFE	£601	CANADA LIFE	£585
LEGAL & GENERAL	£595	AVIVA	£570
AVIVA	£572	LEGAL & GENERAL	£564
PRUDENTIAL	£571	PRUDENTIAL	£555
STANDARD LIFE	£564	STANDARD LIFE	£550

• THESE RATES CANNOT BE GUARANTEED AND ARE CORRECT AT THE TIME OF GOING TO PRESS

Gardner Croft's new family addition

CANTERBURY solicitors' firm Gardner Croft has welcomed family law solicitor Jo Illingworth (pictured left).

She joins a team there specialising in dealing with family breakdown and trauma.

All of the solicitors in the department are members of the family law body Resolution – previously the Solicitors' Family Law Association – with Eileen Sutton a family law panel member and a Resolution accredited specialist in family law. Both she and Daniel Bennett are also trained collaborative lawyers.

Away from the office Jo enjoys cooking, running and cycling along the Kent coast.

MOOR TO COME: Gary Wardrope, of Get Travelling, says the cruising business has sunk the 'staycation' trend despite the economic gloom

County is bucking the trend for 'staycations'

By **STEVE LOADER**
steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

FOR an industry dealing in good times, 2009 was a gloomy year for the holiday trade.

It started with the spectacular crash of holiday giant XL still fresh in the memory, saw a succession of further travel trade casualties and spawned a new buzz word, 'staycation', to describe how recession-hit Brits were swapping holidays abroad for traditional breaks at home.

But Tunbridge Wells-based specialist travel agent Get Travelling and subsidiary Get Cruising are having nothing of the holiday humbug.

Now in its second year of operation, owner Gary Wardrope says the business virtually doubled turnover year on year, despite the overall UK travel trade being in the doldrums.

It sold some £1.2 million of holidays during 2009, took on three more staff, and launched a new venture called Get Skiing.

Meanwhile, the Get Cruising side benefited from a boom in the UK cruise market with a record 1.55 million Brits taking a holiday afloat during 2009 – the biggest cruise ship in the world was launched in December with another being built – while river cruising also leapt in popularity.

Committed

But Gary Wardrope says the business, operating out of The Pantiles – Tunbridge Wells' own famous tourist spot – is convinced that being based in Kent, and customer demand for quality personal service, have been keys to this success.

"Perhaps it's the proximity of sea and airports and the Channel Tunnel link, but people here seem more committed to travelling abroad for their holidays than in some other parts of the country.

"We have seen little evidence of the so-called 'staycation' trend among Kent holidaymakers.

"Travellers from Kent want and value the expert, personal advice and assistance that an independent specialist company like ours can provide.

"That commitment to and love of travel is part of the reason why we set up shop here in the first place."

Get Travelling is now ranked as one of the UK's top three independent travel agents in the UK and was P&O's 2009 Agent of the Year and a finalist in the West Kent Business Excellence (Best New Business) Awards.

The company expects to continue bucking the trend with January and February being big months for cruise bookings and accounting for some 12 per cent of the year's sales.

"Demand for cruise holidays continues to increase and I am confident we can grow the existing business by at least another 50 per cent," said Gary.

'Wheelie' good idea pays off for student

FED up with six months' job-hunting in competition with thousands of other unemployed graduates, Charmaine Kemp sketched out plans for her own business.

Armed with a business and marketing degree from Greenwich University and her studies in graphic design, she researched a mobility business without the overheads of a shop premises, thereby allowing savings to be passed on to customers.

GOOD MOVE: Charmaine Kemp founded company Wheelie Good Mobility

With a student debt and no income, she then turned to The Princes Trust to fund her embryonic business and got the green light after a rigorous Dragons' Den type presentation to Maidstone Chamber of Commerce.

The trust – which specialises in practical and financial support to the young people who need it most – was so impressed that she received funds in three weeks rather than the usual three to four months and went on to launch Wheelie Good Mobility in the face of a severe recession.

One year on, the Dartford firm is thriving in the business of supplying and recycling mobility products such as scooters, wheelchairs and associated equipment, usually at dramatically lower prices than those charged by High Street locations.

Charmaine said price has become crucial in recession; many of her customers are on disabled living allowances anyway.

INSOLVENCY experts at Bridge Business Recovery have begun realising the assets of Swanley-based civil engineers M Holleran Ltd and related plant hire company Oranmore Plant Ltd.

The former subsidiaries of the Holleran Group employed 240 people throughout the UK and had a combined turnover of £60 million, but went into administration last month due to problems caused by the recession. Remaining subsidiaries of the Holleran Group continue to trade as normal, but all staff at the stricken companies have been made redundant.

Andrew Duncan, of Bridge Business Recovery, which has offices at Tunbridge Wells, said: "We are extremely disappointed that we were not in a position to sell these businesses as going concerns – especially for the many people who relied on them for their livelihoods.

"Sadly, their financial positions and the nature of the construction industry meant the only option open to us was an orderly realisation of their assets."

CROSS-Channel ferry operator LD Lines reported a significant rise in freight vehicles carried on its Dover-Boulogne route during December, 2009, of 3,314 units – almost double that in November.

Since the company re-established the Boulogne route in February, 2009, the service has now carried 16,184 freight units and the year-end surge coincided with a switch, from mid-November, from a fast ferry to a conventional vessel with more capacity.

"We are very encouraged by the early response from freight customers to the capacity increase we have introduced to the Boulogne route, and clearly the conventional ferry is meeting demand and establishing the service in a very positive way," said LD Lines' MD Christophe Santoni.

"The exclusivity we provide the haulage industry with via this route, combined with the extra capacity available through the Port of Boulogne's new Hub Port terminal, is clearly developing our business and we look forward to these trends continuing throughout 2010 and beyond."

Boulogne's 20-acre Hub Port opened in September, 2009, and heralded the start of 240 million euros investment over the coming decade.

SLR Consulting has completed four overseas waste projects.

The environmental consultancy, which has a regional office in Maidstone, has been involved with two high-profile contracts in Australia assessing innovative methods for the treatment of municipal solid waste (MSW) and the feasibility of adapting them for use in the UK.

SLR has also been involved with a proposed biogas plant in China and a new generation of landfill facilities near Manila in the Philippines.

SLR Maidstone office manager Nigel Cronin said: "We are recognised as being the leading environmental consultancy in the UK waste sector and this reputation is helping us secure projects like these. With increasing legislation and financial incentives for projects which reduce greenhouse gas emissions we are well placed to capitalise on this growing area."

NEWLY-opened Buttercup Cupcakes at Bluewater Shopping Centre has the perfect treat to follow those seasonal excesses – the Detox Cupcake. The new coffee and desserts 'drop-in' outlet is the third outlet to be opened by Buttercup Cupcakes' founder Donna Egan.

New team means business

KOS Media has built an array of successful titles, websites and brands since the company launched in 2002 with the multiple award-winning Kent on Sunday. One of those is the businessforkent brand, now set for a major upgrade in print, online and in developing media. Here we spotlight the leaders of a new-look team and their objectives in a challenging year for Kent's business community

UNITED FRONT: KOS Media's new business team (from left to right) Clifford Larkin-Smith, Steve Loader and Christine Davidson

BUSINESS for Kent has a new team for a new year – one in which we all hope to see a clear end to this damaging recession.

It's a line-up designed to work closely with the county's commercial community as it seeks to build new prosperity, after taking some big hits over the past couple of years.

Newly-appointed business editor Steve Loader is already familiar to you as the KOS Media group's motoring editor and will continue on that road, but he is also looking forward to the fresh challenge.

"I've covered many different business sectors before, but never had a roving commission like this," he said.

"Our aim is to create a business service that can be followed across an ever-developing range of media for local, regional and, where relevant, global issues – we don't want it to be parochial. It will evolve with new features and pagination added to our weekend business sections and upgrades arriving for the www.businessforkent.co.uk website, which will be refreshed more and more each day – important business stories should not have to wait."

Head of business Christine Davidson said: "Businessforkent.co.uk will soon be viewed as an essential news source for business owners, managers and directors across the county.

"Whether via print, online or even social media, executives should be able to take news any way they wish to, anytime day or night.

"Today, news is immediate and, in business, maybe even more critical. No-one today should have to wait weeks for news, as with some of the more traditional media in this county.

"Local, regional and national companies and brands will use businessforkent to reach out across one of the most prosperous and populous counties in the UK; we will always provide the most competitive and effective media platform, working in close partnership with our customers."

The last point was echoed by Clifford Larkin-Smith, who joins KOS Media in the newly-created post of account manager – business.

He said: "The media is a partnership where we want to invest time and effort to help our customers and clients – we develop a long-term strategy that works time and time again, than settle for a 'quick hit' revenue approach.

"We need to be an extending arm of their business, but we can only be that if we understand exactly what they do and what their objectives are. It's about listening, going away and then coming back with workable options and strategies.

"We are also fortunate this new team and support staff combine experience across a huge range of industries on both the commercial and editorial side; we should have a good handle on all sectors but, if there is a gap, expect us to listen and learn fast."

To see this clip search 'Dockyard' @ yourkenttv.co.uk

Chatham's Historic Dockyard was one of the winners of the KOS Media Business Challenge

STEVE LOADER

STEVE started his editorial career in his home town of Whitstable, going on to work in London and across southern England and parts of Europe.

"A friend of mine says the variety and experiences of journalism may be the best education you can have and I can't argue; there are uplifting and tragic stories to be told and high and lows to endure, but it's never boring and the range of experiences is vast.

"When I crossed to PR for 10 years, I found a whole set of new challenges and experiences; fellow 'scribes' had told me PR was a doddle, but I seemed to work just as hard finding the right stories to keep writers and media happy."

After a period with London consultancies, Steve went freelance and then co-founded his own agency, before ultimately deciding to return to his first love, pitching up as motoring editor with KOS Media when the company launched in 2002.

He enjoys music and travel and "bringing up an energetic six-year-old son".

CHRISTINE DAVIDSON

CHRISTINE has worked in business-to-business media for more than 17 years, producing trade magazines and publications, online brands and masterminding major trade exhibitions and conferences around the world, using flagship venues like London's Earl's Court Olympia and Birmingham NEC.

More recently she applied her wide-ranging sales and marketing skills as a senior consultant and trouble-shooter to media companies in the UK, USA and Middle East.

"Travelling and short-term projects were glamorous for a while," she said. "But I then looked for something to get my teeth into and was drawn back to Kent, where I have lived most of my life.

"I was particularly attracted to KOS Media by its proactive reputation, and was appointed in 2007 to develop the highly successful jobsforkent and educationforkent brands. There is an obvious synergy between those sectors and business to business, so I now welcome the challenge of developing businessforkent to deliver an equally successful portfolio of products."

CLIFFORD LARKIN-SMITH

CLIFFORD grew up in London and Surrey and started his career in advertising with major newspaper series, The Croydon Advertiser, but has gone on to posts across all media sectors and with publishing houses Emap Maclaren and Quantum Business Media.

More recently, he headed sales at a major property publication in the Canary Islands and has also worked on the editorial side as a restaurant critic and feature writer.

"I love the buzz and atmosphere of the restaurant trade and whole dining experience, and I'm also a film buff and live music fan – with eclectic tastes in both," he said.

Clifford owns two guitars and has played and sung in bands in the past, but added: "Though I go to live performances when I can, I get too little time to practice and perform myself now."

Part of the reason could be a love of the job: "I enjoy the challenge of researching and outlining an advertising and marketing strategy that really works, making the most of the disciplines I have acquired over a varied career."

We're in pole position

Kent on Sunday's resident motorsport nut, TOM HOWARD, looks at why the county's racers have proved so successful during the past 10 years and why this trend is set to continue

IS IT just a coincidence that Kent is enjoying a golden era in motorsport, or is there something else to it?

The last 10 years have seen the popularity of the sport grow and honours increase, with Sheppey's Shane Byrne and Leon Camier, from Ashford, winning back-to-back British Superbike titles while riding for Kent team GSE Racing.

Mike Conway, from Sevenoaks, has won the British Formula 3 series and moved into Formula One and Indycar, while Bromley-born Gary Paffett clinched the DTM Touring Car Championship in 2005.

While their success has been notable in the last decade, it's not unprecedented, as Kent has always had a rich history in motorsport.

Canterbury's Derek Minter, multiple Isle of Man winner and 'King of Brands Hatch', and Maidstone's Bill Ivy, both became two of the nation's most famous motorcycle riders in the 1950s and 1960s.

On four wheels, Kent-born David Richards – a co-driver to World Rally champion Ari Vatennen in 1981 – went on to become Subaru World Rally team owner in the 1990s and boss of the BAR Honda Formula One team eight years ago.

While Kent's success on the track has been plentiful, much of it must surely come down to the fact the county boasts circuits such as Brands Hatch, Lydden Hill and the Buckmore Park go-karting track.

Racing began at the county's premier racing track, Brands Hatch, in 1926 and the circuit has since grown into an international venue, which includes hosting Formula One between 1964 and 1986. Rallycross also began in Kent at the Lydden Hill track, near Dover.

Brands Hatch has continued to host high-profile events since the 1980s, including A1GP, British Touring Cars and DTM, while Lydden Hill has been revamped and is firmly part of the European Rallycross calendar.

Martin Hadwen, head of the National Motor Racing Archive in Norfolk, says Kent has played a big part in motorsport down the years, which he too, believes stems from having FIA sanctioned circuits in Brands Hatch and Lydden Hill.

He said: "Kent has always had a rich tradition in the sport and the county seems to be having a great time at the moment. I think when you have circuits like Brands Hatch, where racing has occurred for such a long time, it is always going to attract people into the sport. In a way it probably started from that.

"It has grown alongside other circuits like Lydden Hill and Buckmore Park and I expect there will be more drivers and teams basing themselves in the county in the future."

While the circuits breed aspiring young racers and riders, they also attract teams and motorsport infrastructure.

Sportscar team Jota Sport (Tunbridge Wells), British Touring Car team Motorbase Performance (Wrotham) and British Superbike multiple champions GSE Racing (Ashford), all call the county their home.

Aside from competing, companies such as Comma Oils, based in Gravesend, who supply oil to MotorSportVision and the Formula Two Championship, and Quaife Engineering in Sevenoaks, who construct and issue parts to teams worldwide, have boosted the sport's appeal in Kent.

Motorbase Performance boss David Bartrum believes it's difficult to say why the county is so successful, but agrees the circuits have played a large part of the success.

He said: "I understand why a number of drivers and teams have established themselves in the county.

"The links to circuits like Brands Hatch, Lydden Hill and Europe are fantastic, but it is hard to say why we are so successful at the moment."

SPEED KINGS: Shane 'Shakey' Byrne (above) and Mike Conway have risen to the upper echelons of their respective sports on two and four wheels

KENT MOTORSPORT SUCCESSES 2000-2009

- **SHANE BYRNE** (Sheppey) British Superbike champion 2003 and 2008
- **LEON CAMIER** (Ashford) British Superbike champion 2009
- **GSE RACING** (Ashford) most successful British Superbike team with five titles – 1999, 2000, 2005, 2008 and 2009
- **TIM REEVES** (Ashford) World Sidecar champion 2005-2007
- **MIKE CONWAY** (Sevenoaks) British Formula 3 champion 2006, Indycar and F1 test driver
- **GARY PAFFETT** (Bromley) DTM champion 2005 and runner-up 2009
- **JAY BRIDGER** (Tonbridge) British Formula 3 national champion 2008
- **JOTA SPORT** (Tunbridge Wells) eighth in Le Mans 24 hours 2007

TOP CIRCUITS: Brands Hatch (above) and Lydden Hill (below) have played a major part in motorsport's success in the county

Learners on track for a bright future

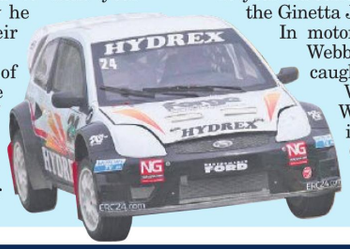
WHILE enjoying our most successful decade as a county, the future of Kent motorsport is in rude health with a host of rising stars coming through the formulas.

One driver primed for a lengthy career in the sport is Tonbridge's Adrian Quaife-Hobbs, who is just one step away from a possible Formula One drive.

The 18-year-old, who is the youngest driver in the country to receive the British Racing Drivers Club Rising Star Award, has agreed to race in the Formula 3 Euro Series for 2010.

The championship has produced a number of Formula One drivers including Lewis Hamilton, Sebastian Vettel, Adrian Sutil and Sebastien Buemi. Quaife-Hobbs is looking forward to next year and hopes one day he can follow in their footsteps.

Also dreaming of making it to the glamorous world of Formula One are British Formula 3 racer Jay Bridger and former Formula Palmer Audi star Aaron Steele.



Bridger, from Horsmonden, has already won the British Formula 3 national class at the age of 20 and completed his first year in the full British Formula 3 Championship. The 22-year-old intends to stay in the series next year, as well as a GT campaign.

Rochester's Steele made his A1GP debut this year for Great Britain, while kart star Laura Tillett is hoping to make history by becoming the next woman to compete in Formula One. The 18-year-old is one of two women competing in the prestigious World Karting Championships.

In Rallycross, Sittingbourne's Liam Doran (pictured) is gunning for the European Championship this year, while 15-year-old Jake Hill is a title contender in the Ginetta Junior Championship.

In motorcycling, teenagers Danny Webb and Tom Weeden have caught the eye.

Webb, from Tunbridge Wells, has spent three years in the Moto GP 125 World Championship and has high hopes for this year after securing a move to front-running team Jack & Jones Aprilia.

Weeden, from Maidstone, has just completed his debut season in the British 125 Championship and will be one to watch again this year.

FUTURE HOPES

- **JAY BRIDGER**: Age 22: British Formula 3/GT
- **JAKE HILL:** Age 15: Ginetta Junior Championship
- **DANNY WEBB:** Age 18: Moto GP 125 World Championship
- **ADRIAN QUAIFE-HOBBS:** Age 18: Formula 3 Euro Series
- **TOM WEEDEN:** Age 15: British 125 Championship
- **LIAM DORAN:** Age 22: European Rallycross Championship
- **LAURA TILLETT:** Age 18: World Karting Championship
- **AARON STEELE:** Age 21: A1GP unsigned for 2010

Snow could kill off cups

Picture: TOM HOWARD

Rugby bosses fear backlog may force drastic action

By STEVE TERVET

TWO of Kent's traditional rugby cup competitions may be scrapped this season as county bosses begin to run out of spare dates to play postponed fixtures.

The weather has already caused numerous league and cup games to be called off and the fixture backlog shows no signs of abating, with more bad weather forecast.

Of six first-round ties in the Kent Vase, only Sheppey's game against Dartfordians has been played so far, with the second round scheduled to take place on February 6.

The following day, third-round Kent Cup ties are due to be played, although the picture there is just as bleak, with five of the eight games from round two yet to be completed.

While the Kent RFU set aside 'spare weekends' at the start of the season to allow for additional cup ties or rearranged league games, the large amount of snow has seen these quickly filled following widespread postponements.

Tim Fagg, the county's chairman of competitions, said: "We're trying to play all the outstanding cup games on February 6. It probably won't work, but we'll try and we'll then have to take another look at it and see where we can fit games in.

"If we do not get all the ties played on February 6 then we really could struggle to complete all four competitions. The league takes priority when there is a clash and the worst-case scenario is that the Kent Salver and Kent Plate do not get played this season."

The Salver and Plate are due to commence on February 6 and 27 respectively, but both weekends are already filling up with rearranged league games and the two trophies are only likely to be contested if the weather improves dramatically.

Meanwhile, several clubs have mooted the idea of combining league and cup ties into double-headers where the result would count for both competitions.

In the Vase, Cranbrook v Gillingham Anchorians is an all-Kent 1 affair while Askeans v Orpington doubles up as a Kent 2 fixture. Last year, flooding caused a smaller number of games to be called off but three had to be decided by the toss of a coin.

Fagg said: "The Cup and Vase will definitely be finished and we could play the Plate and Salver throughout April.

"The Cup final is due to be played on April 25, so that might have to be put back, but we then run into problems with the county championship [which takes place in May]."

Picture: NICK DUNGAN

Picture: IGOR KUPCO

BACKLOG: Maidstone (top), Cranbrook (left) and Ashford (right) are among the clubs who have suffered postponements in cup competitions

Kent U20s set for national title assault

WITH the national championships just three weeks away, the cream of Kent's under-20 rugby talent will put forward their case for selection in today's warm-up game.

Barts & Royal London Medical School provide the opposition at their Chislehurst ground, with Kent and Medway head coach Taff Gwilliam set to use 35 players as he looks to whittle down his squad to a manageable number.

Gwilliam's group contains 12 of the team which reached the quarter-finals a year ago and he believes the experience will stand them in good stead.

He said: "To reach the quarter-final was a good achievement, we had a young squad and so I'm quietly optimistic about our chances this year.

"If we perform I'm sure we will get out of the group stages and it all depends from there as to who we draw.

"The weather has disrupted our preparations and it's now a race against time to gel this group of players into a squad. It's a refreshing role for me, it brings its own challenges and that can only help my own development."

STRONG SHOWING: Kent under-20 side that reached the quarter-finals last year

Kent will take on Hampshire, Surrey and the Army in London & South East region B, one of seven sections in the competition, which comprises 29 regional sides.

Timeline

KOS Media sport takes a look at the highlights of all the sporting action from the last 100 years

1910 **100 YEARS AGO:** Thinly-veiled allegations of thuggery were levelled at New Brompton's visitors Plymouth Argyle, after the Devonians escaped from Priestfield with a point from a 1-1 draw in the Southern League.

The future Gills were 1-0 ahead through Reid when it was reported that: "The exchanges degenerated and unsportsmanlike tactics were introduced, three New Brompton players being temporarily incapacitated."

Argyle made it 1-1 in the second-half when Burch hit the bar and his shot rebounded to Hindmarsh, who turned in the rebound.

In the Kent League, leaders Sittingbourne were beaten 2-1 by Dartford.

Chatham grabbed a point when they held Sheppey 1-1 at Botany Road and the long-since defunct Rochester FC held Maidstone United to a 1-1 draw at their ground on Patten's Lane.

1960 **50 YEARS AGO:** It was announced cricket would be played at the St Lawrence Ground on a Sunday for the first time in the venue's history.

With Kent playing at outgrounds for much of the season, the ground was regularly used by local clubs, but never on the sabbath.

Gillingham manager Harry Barrett was faced with trying to maintain a promotion challenge on a limited budget.

The Gills were well placed to challenge from promotion from Division Four and at full strength for the weekend's game with Aldershot, but Barrett had little cover and little money to spend on reinforcements in the event of an injury crisis.

1985 **25 YEARS AGO:** Jeff Johnson became the fourth Gillingham player to be sent off in as many games during his side's 3-0 win over Orient in Division Three.

Manager Keith Peacock once again found himself having to defend a player, claiming the decision was harsh.

"It was a bad tackle, I wouldn't argue with that," he said. "But Jeff hadn't been spoken to before or been involved in any previous incidents and it wasn't as though it had been a dirty game. A booking would probably have been sufficient punishment."

Former Gills skipper Dick Tydeman quit Southern League Chatham Town to join Alliance Premier League side Dagenham.

Cavaday crushed in Oz by a wicked draw

NAOMI Cavaday's hopes of a first appearance in the main draw at the Australian Open were ended after coming up against world-class opposition in qualifying.

The 20-year-old from Sidcup, came from a set down to win her opening game in Melbourne, beating Russian Alexandra Panova 3-6, 7-6, 6-3.

But the draw was not kind to the British number five. In round two Cavaday came up against Yanina Wickmayer, seeded number one for the qualifying tournament.

The Belgian, ranked 16 in the world, should have been entered straight into the main draw, but she had to go through qualifying because a ban for doping allegations was lifted after the tournament's line-up was confirmed.

With almost 200 places between the players in the rankings, a predictably one-sided encounter lasted less than an hour. Cavaday won just one game, losing 6-0, 6-1.

Picture: PHIL HOUGHTON

LOST REVENUE: Roly Edwards says cash from home games is vital

Home where cash is, says Fleet chief

EBBSFLEET United cannot afford any more home games to be postponed this season.

The Fleet played just once at Stonebridge Road during December after the visit of Histon was called off, and last Saturday's whiteout prevented Kettering Town travelling to north Kent.

With Liam Daish's side in fine form on their own patch, further postponements could halt the momentum generated by wins against Mansfield Town, Stevenage Borough and Grays Athletic.

However, the cash-strapped club would be hit harder by the loss of money taken on the gate, at food outlets and from programme sales were the weather to deteriorate further.

The reduction of subscriptions for MyFootballClub membership packages over the past 12 months has already seen severe cuts made to Daish's playing budget and with 3,000 members due to renew or withdraw on February 19, this is a critical period for the club.

Ebbsfleet vice-chairman Roly Edwards said: "We really need the revenue from home games – it's always an issue. If you lose one game it's not so bad, but you're budgeting over the course of a month and if you suddenly lose two or three games it does have an impact.

"It's a difficult time when games are getting called off left, right and centre – I don't want to overplay it, but it does become a problem."

CONGESTION: (l-r) The snow has has wreaked havoc at grounds such as Tonbridge Angels' Longmead Stadium and Ashford's Homelands

Snow let up yet

As weather improves, Kent clubs are left with another headache

By DAVID PRITCHARD

THE retreating snow and ice continues to play havoc with football's fixture lists, but league officials believe the thaw has come in time to avoid major rescheduling problems.

After four weeks of disruption the freezing weather appears to be relenting, although the melting snow is expected to cause new headaches as pitches become saturated.

Since December 19, non-league football in Kent has been a rarity, reaching its most severe last weekend when not a single game beat the weather.

Postponed

Last week Kent on Sunday examined the problems bad weather was causing to clubs' already frail finances.

Now with conditions gradually improving, clubs and administrators have the headache of fitting the postponed games into their schedule.

The biggest problem is at Homelands, where the fixture backlog is doubled, with both landlords Ashford Town and tenants Maidstone United needing extra dates. Between them they have 28 home league games still to play before the end of April.

Maidstone chairman Paul Bowden-Brown admitted the number of games still to be played at Homelands raised such problems that it cast doubt over the whole concept of ground sharing.

He said: "The problem is we could have a situation where ourselves and Ashford will need the pitch four times in a week and it just wouldn't work. What we are proving at the moment with this weather is ground sharing isn't working."

Overall the picture is not as dire. The Kent League has had a lengthy break, with teams such as Hythe Town not playing a league fixture since December 5. Despite the lack of football, the division, which only has 16 teams, is better placed than most to deal with the interference.

League chairman Denise Richmond said: "This is one instance where not having the big numbers in the league counts in our favour.

"It does mean we're unlikely to have games piling up towards the end of the season.

"We need to get some of the cup games played as quickly as possible, it's not just our competitions but there's the Kent Senior Trophy as well, which takes priority."

With frost covers and other measures prohibitively expensive for all but the most wealthy non-league sides, clubs have been virtually powerless to combat the conditions.

The Ryman League have relaxed their regulations on postponing games, allowing fixtures to be called off earlier and without the need to consult a referee.

League chairman Alan Turvey believes the temporary measures will help save on costs, but conceded there would be fixture congestion if the disruption continued for much longer.

He said: "This isn't a normal situation but we know the clubs want to play. Hopefully that will save them costs on transport, food and printing programmes.

"There's not a fixture problem at the moment but if it carries on teams will be playing two midweek games a week."

This big freeze has nothing on 1962/63 season

THE arctic conditions experienced over the last few weeks is relatively tame compared to the huge problems caused by the severe winter of 1962/63.

Heavy snow fell on the county on Boxing Day and plagued Kent until late February.

The worst weather came in January, when Met Office data from Manston shows the average maximum daily temperature was 0.2 degrees Celsius.

There were virtually no football games nationally for eight weeks, with the FA Cup third round taking more than two months to complete.

Locally the fixture pile-up caused massive problems, with the Maidstone Sunday League considering folding in its inaugural season.

The big freeze affected all sport, even indoor events.

Problems with travelling saw an inter-counties boxing championship in Margate scrapped and there was talk of extending the county's table tennis season after so many tournaments were postponed.

Although there were huge difficulties, many made the most of the conditions.

The frozen lake in Mote Park, Maidstone, was turned into a skating rink while the lack of rugby saw players refer to the blank Saturdays as 'Ale Days'.

MY HERO: Chris Smalling says his career path is similar to Stuart Pearce's (inset)

'Psycho' Smalling's role model

CHRIS Smalling doesn't want to be the next Rio Ferdinand, John Terry or even Cristiano Ronaldo for that matter, ***writes Tom Howard.***

Instead, the new Fulham man is intent on basing his game on no-nonsense former Nottingham Forest and England defender Stuart Pearce.

'Psycho', as Pearce was affectionately known, is hardly the most fashionable of choices as a role model for a young player making his way in the game, although he perhaps should be.

What it does do is give an insight into the way Smalling, the former Maidstone United defender, wants to go about forging a career in the Premier League, and there are parallels between the pair.

It's so far been a meteoric rise from non-league to the Premier League for the 20-year-old Kent-based defender, who just two years ago was playing Ryman Premier League football for the Stones.

Smalling, who was spotted playing for England Schoolboys, joined Fulham from the Kent side in May, 2008, and has progressed through the reserves into the first-team.

While under the guidance of Fulham boss Roy Hodgson, he has earned a call-up to Pearce's England under-21s and has made three appearances.

Pearce also graduated through non-league with Wealdstone before getting his big break, and Smalling said the experience of working with the under-21 boss has been invaluable.

He said: "I have loved my time with the under-21s and getting to know the young stars in the Premier League has been great.

"The trips away have been brilliant, but learning off Stuart has been excellent for me. He is someone I really admire and he began his career in non-league like me. I hope I can follow in his footsteps."

Just after Christmas, the former Chatham Grammar schoolboy was handed his first Premier League start, replacing the injured Brede Hangeland in arguably Fulham's biggest game of the season against Chelsea.

The Whites took a shock lead in the fourth minute through Zoltan Gera and looked to be on course for a memorable win. But an equaliser from Didier Drogba and an unfortunate own goal from Smalling saw Chelsea snatch three points.

Despite putting through his own net, Smalling earned rave reviews for his performance and has featured in the Fulham side several times since.

"It was great a great opportunity for me and I thought I played well," he said.

"When the teams were shaking hands and I saw players like Didier Drogba, I had to pinch myself as I shook his hand, but I'm not letting it get to me. I've still got a lot to learn and I'm not going to get ahead of myself."

Smalling could be lining up against Gillingham in the FA Cup if the Priestfield side beat Accrington Stanley on Tuesday. The winners will face Fulham.

Living the dream

Kent off-spinner says the winter tour with England has shown him what it will take to move a step closer and realise his ultimate ambition of making his Test debut

FOLLOWING the final Test against South Africa here in Johannesburg, I will return home to Kent for a short break knowing a winter spent in and around the senior England squad has brought me much closer to realising my biggest ambition in cricket.

By mid-February I will be away again in the United Arab Emirates with the England Lions team, and then it will be on to Bangladesh as part of the full England one-day squad.

There are also two Twenty20 internationals between England and Pakistan in the UAE as a prelude to the Bangladesh leg, so winning my first England senior cap could be just around the corner.

At the end of last summer I knew that, after my excellent season with Kent, I would be pushing for further honours and especially with the England Lions. But getting the call-up to the full England squad last November, initially joining the ODI squad but since then also staying on with the Test squad as cover for Graeme Swann, has been a huge boost to my career.

Although I didn't play in the one-day or Test series and have bowled and batted mainly in the nets, just being around the England team has given me an important insight into what is required to play at the highest level.

The only cricket I've had in South Africa was for the Performance Programme team before Christmas, and it was nice to get some runs and wickets out in the middle, but just being asked by head coach Andy Flower to stay on here as part of the Test squad is proof that I must be doing something right.

Going to New Zealand as a member of the England one-day squad in early 2008 – again without getting on to the park in an international game – provided me with my first taste of what playing for your country at senior level entails, but my game has definitely progressed and improved since then.

The past two months or so in South Africa have flown by and that's because I have been learning so much by being a part of the squad in terms of preparation for each Test. I have been putting in as much work as I can to help the chosen XIs prepare, and to further my own game, and I hope the reward of a first international cap will come along soon.

It was a little strange being away at Christmas on my own, but in the New Year, my wife Beth was able to come out to Cape Town for a week, and that proved to be the best time and place for her to have a well-earned holiday.

I am due to be back home for just a fortnight or so before getting on a plane again, to the UAE with the Lions, and I think I will have four matches with them before the main body of the England one-day squad arrives there. It is going to be an exciting time for me, and I can't wait to get out there and get playing again.

I am hoping, both in the UAE and in Bangladesh, that England will want to field two spinners in every match, and if I needed any added inspiration, then I only have to look at the 12 months that Graeme Swann has had at international level.

Graeme has had a magnificent year, in both Test and One-Day International cricket, and being around him in South Africa has been very educational for me. Being a similar type of cricketer (but not similar characters!) we chat a lot about things and his success at England level can only be good for me.

During the tour here I've also had the chance, of course, to chat with the England coaches and to work at little aspects of my game. But it was also good for me when Ashley Giles, the former England spinner and now a selector, spent some time with us.

He's always been good to speak with and, once again, he talked well about the differences there are between first-class and Test cricket in terms of all the periphery things that go on around you when you play at full international level. And you do need to be aware of that, and ready to deal with it, when your time comes.

Overall, then, it has been time very well spent for me in South Africa, and a real fillip. Hopefully, however, the best of this winter – on a personal level – is still to come.

AMBITION: James Tredwell Picture: GETTY IMAGES

• James Tredwell, the Kent and England off-spinner, is one of KOS Media's regular sports columnists

Picture: NICK DUNGAN

CONCERN: The 11-a-side game in Kent has suffered a drop in teams Picture: NICK DUNGAN

Game in good health despite 11-a-side dip

FOOTBALL is in robust health across the county despite a slight decline in men's 11-a-side games, according to figures from the Kent County Football Association (KCFA).

Participation has increased by about five per cent on last year, with 46,000 people competing every week. There are now more youth, female and disabled teams than 12 months ago, which has helped the KCFA exceed its targets.

The one concern is in men's 11-a-side, traditionally the game's cornerstone, but a format which has become increasingly threatened. The decline is modest, with nine fewer teams across the county, but it is enough to worry KCFA county development manager, Paul Dolan.

He said: "That's obviously a concern but it's not just in Kent, that's a situation reflected across the country. There are a lot of reasons for it, mainly around society being different now.

Influence

"Weekends were given up for leisure but now a lot of people have work or family commitments. We can't have a direct influence on those, but we're trying to increase the numbers at youth level to widen the base which will get fed into adult football."

The dip does not necessarily mean adults are leaving the game, as many opt for more convenient midweek five or six-a-side football instead.

Overall though the figures, which show 2,500 more players involved every week, are encouraging. Progress is also being made with refereeing, with an extra 21 male and five female officials qualified in the county, taking the total above 1,100.

While pointing it out the developments are part of a long-term trend, Dolan is delighted with the figures.

He said: "A lot of people view the county association as an organisation which hands out fines and keeps discipline. Hopefully this shows we do more than that with the growth of the game."

New club boss sets sight on big events

TOP COURSE: The London Golf Club hosted the European Open in 2008 and 2009

THE London Golf Club's new general manager has arrived from one of the country's most esteemed clubs with a brief to create a tradition of hosting major events.

Austen Gravestock took over the reins at the club, near Ash, this week after spending two years in a similar role at Sunningdale.

The 40-year-old, who replaces Heath Harvey, arrives with the London Club at a critical moment in its relatively short history.

After twice hosting the European Open it will miss out this year after the event was left off this season due to sponsorship issues.

The club submitted a planning application last month for a hotel, which if built would transform the site into a golfing resort. In turn it would make the club much more attractive to the European Tour, which Gravestock hopes will make it a regular feature on the calendar.

He said: "Of course the club wants a tradition of hosting big events. It has massive potential, we have a very big site and with the hotel as well there's lots we would love to do.

"It's a great shame the European Tour couldn't agree a title sponsor for the competition in 2010, but they are looking for 2011 and we're hopeful to bring it back here."

Gravestock was attracted to the club by its reputation as a forward-thinking venue, which he admits has a contrasting atmosphere to his former employers at the renowned Berkshire club.

He said: "Sunningdale is 110 years old, it's a fantastic place but a rather more traditional club than here.

"It's golf of this century, very progressive and modernistic in its approach. The challenge is maintaining the momentum."

Youngsters to reap cash grant reward

SPORTING youngsters in the county are set to benefit from a series of £300 grants awarded by the Kent County Playing Fields Association.

The association's memorial fund was launched to honour Stanley Blow and Ole Kverndal, who were instrumental in the introduction of playing fields, and will enable grants for new sports clubs and coaching courses.

Geoff Cooke, president of the association, said: "We consider it is vital in this day and age to provide more sporting opportunities for youngsters and these awards are one way in which the association can make a very positive contribution."

Application forms for grants can be obtained from the association on 01622 753960 or kcpfa@hotmail.co.uk before March 20.

LISA'S FEAR OVER TERROR ATTACK

Security concerns threat to star's bid to retain Commonwealth title in India

By TOM HOWARD

SECURITY fears over this year's Commonwealth Games in India have left Kent athlete Lisa Dobriskey in two minds about defending her 1500m title.

England are due to send a full squad to the games in Delhi in October, but that's been thrown into doubt due to security concerns after terrorist attacks in Mumbai and Lahore in the last two years.

The World silver medallist from Ashford, who began her season with a 12th place finish at the Great Edinburgh cross-country last weekend, wants to defend the 1500m crown she won in Melbourne in 2006.

Defence

She told told Kent on Sunday that security fears have put her defence in doubt, but is also not the only reason why she may not compete.

She said: "Obviously being the reigning champion there is an added reason for me to go and defend my title. I would love to make the trip to India, but it is not really up to me. I will leave that to the officials, if they say it is safe then I will go. Also it will depend on my fitness at the end of the year, so if I don't feel up to it I won't go."

If Dobriskey fails to make the trip to India – and she isn't the only one to express doubts after sprinter Marlon Devonish and hurdler Andy Turner both said they had reservations – it's still going to be a big year for the Kent athlete.

Her first target is to remain injury free, which is a problem that plagued her last year, and is closely followed by a medal bid at July's European Championships in Barcelona. She is also planning a tilt at the World Indoor Championships at Doha in March.

After ending 2009 by producing a career-best sub-four minute time of 3:59:50 at the Golden League meeting in Switzerland, perilously close to Kelly Holmes' British record, Dobriskey believes she is entering the next stage of her running career.

She said: "Things have certainly changed for me now. I'm not an up-and-coming athlete anymore and there is a lot of expectation surrounding me on the track. I feel now that I have to perform in every race and when I do have a bad race it will not go unnoticed like before.

"Injuries were such a pain last season and I seem to keep picking them up, so to have a year without injury would be high on my list. Probably the biggest event for me is the European Championships.

"I'd love to get a medal there and a gold would be great, but I've learnt now that after the injuries of last year, nothing is certain in this sport."

Dobriskey will begin her indoor season in the Aviva International match in Glasgow on January 30.

Picture: ADY KERRY

CONCERNS: Athlete Lisa Dobriskey is not sure about whether she will run in the 1500m in Delhi

It's another great result from DBM

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Miller's days at Gills are numbered

GILLINGHAM midfielder Adam Miller and his representatives are in talks with the club about paying up the remainder of his contract at Priestfield.

The 27-year-old returned to the Gills this week after Dagenham & Redbridge declined to make the midfielder's loan spell permanent, citing wages as the stumbling block.

During his two-month stay at the League Two club, Miller made it clear he did not want to return to Gillingham.

For the moment he is training with the squad but talks have begun with club chairman Paul Scally about ending his contract, which expires at the end of the season.

Manager Mark Stimson felt it would be the best option for all parties.

He said: "In that area of the pitch we've got a lot of bodies. There's six players for those two or three positions so it's not as if we desperately need another midfield player. If that could happen it might free up some money so we could go and get another player in a different position."

The bad weather has slowed the whole transfer market down, but the Gills should know imminently about one potential signing.

Febian Brandy's loan deal ended yesterday, but the club are keen to keep the Manchester United striker until the end of the season.

Stimson said: "I think [Brandy] would be interested in it, he just wants to know what Manchester United are thinking.

"He's a fantastic talent. It was a good one when we got him and we'd like to try and maintain that."

Gillingham are also closing in on loan agreements for a defender and striker which could be concluded in the next few days, while Stimson confirmed there has not been any approach for top-scorer Simeon Jackson.

Picture: ADY KERRY

RELEASE ME: Adam Miller wants out